

Amanda Lindhout
on survival **P. 3**

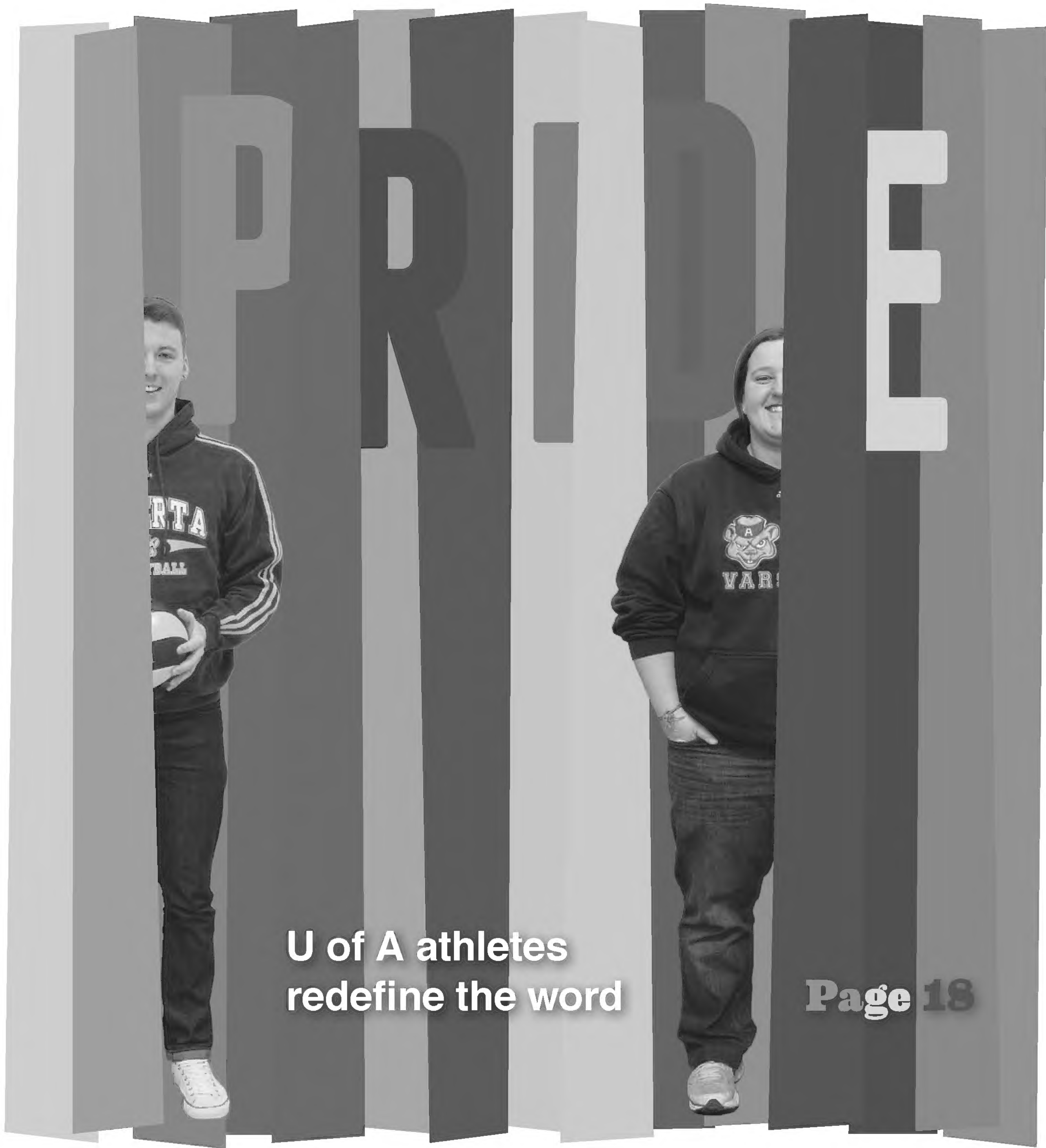
Five best overlooked
Oscar scores **P. 21**

Why we owned the
podium **P. 33**

February 26th, 2014 ■ Issue No. 25 ■ Volume 104

THE **gateway**

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



U of A athletes
redefine the word

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U of A
VOTES 2014

The Gateway is your
source for coverage of
the 2014 U of A Students'
Union and GSA Executive
Elections.

Schedule
of Events:

Today

- **SU candidate Q&As:** President, VP (Academic), VP (Student Life), VP (External), VP (Operations and Finance), Board of Governors Representative

Wednesday, March 5

- **Myer Horowitz and SUBstage** candidates' forums in review
- **Election Dissection:** A panel of three SU experts share their thoughts on this year's SU executive candidates
- **Poster Slam:** A less-than-expert panel of Gateway staff rips on and tears apart the best and worst of this year's campaign posters

Thursday, March 6

- **The Gateway's** annual coverage of elections night will be online-only this year — we'll be bringing you the final results along with exclusive interviews with winners and losers Thursday night at gtwy.ca

Wednesday, March 12

- **Graduate Students' Association winner Q&As:** President, VP (Academic), VP (Labour), VP (Student Services), VP (External)

thegatewayonline

- Find exclusive video platforms and extended Q&As from SU candidates at gtwy.ca
- Opinion editor Darcy Ropchan is blogging about elections shenanigans with our special elections blog **Bite the Ballot**
- Follow **@The_Gateway** on Twitter for elections updates throughout the week
- Keep an eye (and ear) out for a special episode of **The Gateway Presents** with campus radio station CJSR for an elections-related episode featuring the three main presidential candidates on Thursday, February 27

"Would it be wrong
to 3D print
a dildo?"

#3LF
page 17

THE gateway

visit us at GTWY.CA

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Suite 3-04
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7

Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665
Ad Inquiries 780.492.6700
Email gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Andrew Jeffrey
eic@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.5168

MANAGING EDITOR Alana Willerton
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6654

ONLINE EDITOR Kate Black
online@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652

NEWS EDITOR Michelle Mark
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7308

STAFF REPORTER Andrea Ross
staffreporter@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6664

OPINION EDITOR Darcy Ropchan
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6661

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR Paige Gorsak
arts@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7052

SPORTS EDITOR Atta Almasi
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca | 248.1509

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR Katherine Speur
multimedia@gateway.ualberta.ca

PHOTO EDITOR Kevin Schenk
photo@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6648

DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Anthony Goertz
production@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6663


business staff

BUSINESS MANAGER Ryan Bromsgrove
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6700


GRAPHIC DESIGNER Vikki Wiercinski
design@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6647

WEBMASTER Jordan Ching
webmaster@gateway.ualberta.ca

CIRCULATION PALS
Anthony Goertz & Robert Latte
circulation@gateway.ualberta.ca



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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers and HP Scanjet flatbed scanners. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **Fairplex**, **Utopia**, **Proxima Nova Extra Condensed**, and **Tisa**. *The Manitoban* is *The Gateway's* sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." *The Gateway's* game of choice is drowning in a sea of neverending Q&As.

contributors

Christina Varvis, Blake Fensom, Michael Vecchio, Jennifer Robinson, Brad Kennedy, Adrian Lahola-Chomiak, Shannon Kovalsky, Cameron Lewis, Connor Bradley, Richard Liew, Shannah Barros, Tyler Hein, Stefano Jun, Nikhil Shah, Michael J. Johnson

news haiku

Doge 4 prez, oh yes :)
The Gateway thinks he's da best
Dem flowin' locks... mmm



PHOTO OF THE WEEK A beloved Gateway reader checks out his Purity Test score in Japan over Reading Week. CASSIAN SOLTKEYEVICH

correction

In the February 12 edition of *The Gateway*, we ran a story about DiscoverE's Girls Coding Club with the headline "Computer Engineering student starts new coding club for girls." The student referred to in the headline and interviewed in the story, while heavily involved with the group now, had no hand in initially organizing this group. Rather, it was started by DiscoverE's management team, of which this student is not a member. We at *The Gateway* strive to provide as accurate a portrayal of groups and events on campus at all times and to provide proper credit to the initiatives we cover, and apologize for any confusion that stemmed from this potentially misleading headline.

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streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Andrea Ross + Christina Varvis


As you may have heard, elections for the Students' Union executive and Board of Governors are coming up on March 5 and 6. WE ASKED...

Will you be voting? Why? Why not?




Randolph Soanes-Ulrich EDUCATION II

"Yes. Mostly to see someone not win. I'm not going to say who."




Jason Margo BUSINESS IV

"I don't think I'm going to, just because I don't know enough about it right now and I usually stay mostly around the business school, so I'm kind of more involved in that and don't really focus much on this."



Macy Kolesnikoff EDUCATION I

"Probably not. I'm not as emotionally invested in it the same way as I would be in an election for municipal, provincial or federal (government) ... I don't have the time because of midterms to go through and look at the platforms. I'd rather make an informed vote than a vote just because I want to vote."



Cassandra Freeborn EDUCATION I

"Probably not. Just because I have so many assignments and stuff to do. I don't really look into the election part of the university."

Former captive journalist talks freedom and forgiveness

Andrea Ross

STAFF REPORTER • @_ROSSANDREA

A Somalian woman threw herself over Amanda Lindhout's body as her captors dragged her across the floor of a mosque. The woman's niqab pulled back to reveal a middle-aged woman, reminding Lindhout of her own mother in Canada working in vain to free her daughter.

Strangers until that moment, the woman called Lindhout her "sister" as she reached out for her. As her teenage captors dragged her away from the mosque, Lindhout heard a single gunshot.

"For the next 10 months that I had left in captivity, I would think about this woman and her courage that day, and it gave me courage to endure everything that was to follow," Lindhout said Monday evening at the University of Alberta.

"For all the punishment that I had to endure next, I would think of her."

After that failed escape attempt, Lindhout knew if she ever left Somalia alive she would honour that woman in some way. She was freed when her family paid a ransom and returned to Calgary in November, 2009 after 15 months of solitary confinement, starvation, physical and sexual abuse.

The former journalist spoke to a packed lecture hall at the U of A Monday as part of Freedom to Read Week, an annual event held nationwide to celebrate intellectual freedom while raising awareness of challenges to the freedom to engage in literacy. Lindhout focused on the challenges faced in captivity and how they shaped her view of humanity.

Despite the daily abuse, Lindhout

said her dignity and morals were something the young soldiers couldn't take from her.

"The most difficult times for me were when my faith in human decency felt lost," she said. "I began to question the inherent goodness of humankind that I had always believed so strongly in."

▪ **"This work has become my life ... The country where I lost my freedom is where I found my life's purpose."**

AMANDA LINDHOUT
ACTIVIST

Lindhout said a moment of clarity transformed the ways she viewed her captors, who had grown up in a country torn apart by civil war.

"For the first time I began to understand who the boy abusing me was. I knew that his suffering, though completely different than mine, was also equal to mine," she said. "It was his own misery, depression, anger, rage at his own life's circumstances that allowed him to abuse me."

"I believe that his own layer of pain covered his conscience and allowed him to abuse. That he was driven by the need to make someone suffer more than he was suffering."

Lindhout has spent the past five years recovering from the physical and mental effects of captivity while establishing her own charity in memory of the woman in the mosque. She founded the Global Enrichment Foundation in 2010, which has raised more than \$2 million towards creating opportunities



FINDING FREEDOM Amanda Lindhout came to campus to talk about her experiences in captivity in Somalia.

ALEX MIGDAL

for Somalian women by offering bursaries and scholarships. Last year she released her memoir *A House in the Sky*, detailing her travels as a young freelance journalist and her captivity in Africa.

She has refused to be pigeonholed as a victim, she said, instead focusing on her efforts on forgiveness and making positive change in Somalia. She returned to Africa

in 2011 to contribute to relief efforts for Somalian refugees.

"This work has become my life," she said, showing pictures of Somalian women and children from her travels. "The country where I lost my freedom is where I found my life's purpose."

Lindhout now calls Canmore home and divides her time between speaking engagements and her role

as Executive Director for the Global Enrichment Foundation. Her recovery is an ongoing process.

"I hope everybody here was reminded of the strength and resiliency of the human spirit that is inside of all of us, so that when we are going through difficult times we can remember that that is innate inside of us," Lindhout told *The Gateway*. "It gives us strength to carry on."

Upcoming campus Pride Week to feature diverse and inclusive events

Andrew Jeffrey

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

Shining a spotlight on gender and sexual minorities in the campus community, the U of A's second annual Pride Week festivities are set to begin this Wednesday.

A highly anticipated series of events that's building off of a successful initial run, Pride Week, running from Feb. 26 to March 8, engages students, staff and faculty on campus to build a safe and respectful environment for LGBTQ members of the campus community.

▪ **"Things like Pride Week ... give us time to take pause and evaluate our role in the world."**

ALEXIS HILLYARD
SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY EQUALITY ADVISOR, ISMSS

Organized by the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services (iSMSS) and the OUTreach student group, the event is still fairly new as a more organized and fully realized set of events.

There were efforts on campus for similar types of events before last year, but 2013 was the first the events of Pride Week were fully realized to this extent.

Alexis Hillyard, iSMSS' Sexual and Gender Minority Equality Advisor and the primary organizer of Pride Week, said the event came together after the release of last term's Safe Spaces Report. The report quoted a student who was unaware of campus resources for LGBTQ students.

"We wanted Pride Week to be really



PROUD CROWD The U of A is gearing up for its second annual Pride Week.

FILE PHOTO: KATHLEEN ZENITH

big and visible, to show our students and staff that the institution is here for you," Hillyard said.

Learning from how Pride Week went last year, the organizers this year settled on holding less events, but focusing on making what they did offer of a higher quality.

They also wanted to focus on providing a variety of options to attract

attendees with everything from fun events and celebrations such as the Pride parade, to more informative and educational sessions that help give the campus community a better understanding of the experiences of their LGBTQ peers.

"We recognize that Pride events sometimes omit voices that aren't typically heard. So we wanted to

ensure our events spoke to that," Hillyard said.

"We've got an Intersections of Queer symposium that look at intersections of race and queerness, and religion and queerness. Our keynote speaker is Laverne Cox who is a trans woman, and so (we're) just bringing voices that typically don't get the spotlight in Pride events,

which is really important."

Cox's talk specifically has generated a great deal of buzz. The *Orange is the New Black* actress' lecture has been featured prominently on advertisements around campus and garnered more than 500 attendees committed to going on Facebook. The educational aspect of the week is naturally a vital aspect of the week for Hillyard in the work it does to further the creation of a safe and caring space for LGBTQ students and faculty on campus.

▪ **"We recognize that Pride events sometimes omit voices that aren't typically heard. So we wanted to ensure our events spoke to that."**

ALEXIS HILLYARD
SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY EQUALITY ADVISOR, ISMSS

"Things like Pride Week ... give us the opportunity to interact in these systems and how we all have a part to play in making them better, whether or not we identify as LGBTQ or not. It gives us time to take pause and evaluate our role in the world," Hillyard said.

"By putting yourself out there, you're really trying to eat away at those negative stereotypes. Really educating and learning more is a key thing. This Pride Week is for everyone."

"It's a chance for us to all come out and ask questions, learn from each other, be in spaces that aren't typically available, and really educating ourselves is the best place to start and the first place to start."

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Three candidates and a dog lay claim to President

Michelle Mark
NEWS EDITOR • @MICHELLEAMARK

The President is the primary spokesperson for the Students' Union. They are responsible for maintaining an awareness of major issues affecting students and shall supervise the overall administration of the Students' Union and co-ordination of the Executive Committee.

1 Walk us through some of your platform goals.

William Lau: One of my first points that I'd like to accomplish is maximize student representation ... Leveraging the nominating committee that was created this year to hopefully effectively fill all seats in university governance with students ... My second platform point is to prioritize student voice ... With the strategic plan coming up, it's a good chance for the Students' Union to clarify our values and the direction we want to lead.

The last point is enhancing co-curricular opportunities. I think a really, really strong opportunity we have here is the momentum carrying forward with the Leadership College. The residence aside, it's really exciting to have a pool of money coming in for what the university is calling "leadership programming."

Bashir Mohamed: I've promised myself to never say the phrase, 'I've broken it up into three key things,' but it's three key things. There's international students, there's advocacy and there's alleviating the need for childcare.

I support the need to regulate the differential fee, because right now it's being used as a way for, when there are budget cuts, the university can reach into this pool of students and grab a few pennies.

There's (my) approach to advocacy, which is essentially recognizing that the SU's form of advocacy is inherently short-term ... By creating an advocacy committee ... to keep Council in check and to also maintain long-term advocacy projects.



PRESIDENTIAL POTENTIALS PUSH FOR POST-PETROS POSITION Bashir Mohamed, Adam Woods, William Lau and Doge are getting their president on.

MICHELLE MARK

For alleviating childcare ... There's that stereotype that students are not married and don't have children, or aren't mature.

The SU used to have a daycare, it was funded by the city of Edmonton and it cost no student dollars, and I realized that's an approach the SU could do.

Adam Woods: The first is advancing academic advising options on campus ... One thing we should be focusing on is ... (work) through InfoLink to provide a better peer support service.

The second big area is providing more support to student groups. There's been quite a lot of attention this year on (Student Group Services) ... they need more staff resources; they need more support.

Third point is protecting the quality of education on campus by advocating to the government and other stakeholders ... We need to be pushing the government to reinvest and to create a sustainable funding model.

Doge: WALK!!!! :D

2 If you had to criticize anything the current President did this year, what would it be?

Lau: Shit.

That's a tough question. I'd say his main mistake is not running for a second year. He did way too good of a job and it makes other execs look bad.

Mohamed: That's a big question.

I was a bit frustrated that (Petros Kusmu) was hesitant to go to the province to advocate on the Leadership College ... He eventually relaxed that position; that's why he went to Council to ask for our views on it.

The main thing is the (international differential fee increase). He did a lot of good work, he met with a lot of the Board of Governors, but I feel that more material support could have been given to the grassroots.

Woods: It's never about who is the better candidate, it's a matter about what kind of year is it? What kind of president do we need? I think this year, one challenge we faced ... was it was so overwhelming that (Kusmu) really took his time in making those decisions, and that can be a good thing, at times. But there are also times I feel we really need to be able to come out with that stance now.

Doge: no1 - he is nawt a doge. asuch, Petros not giv kiss or cuddle. Doge presadutn giv much luv 2 every1.

3 This year has seen some of the most drastic budget cuts to the university in decades. If these sorts of cuts hit the U of A again next year, how will you make sure students' concerns are heard by the university? By the government?

Lau: I think part of that is what we're building into our communications strategy right now. One clear thing we saw from the budget cuts last year was that students are frustrated that what they had to say wasn't being taken into account.

With our communications strategy that we're drafting right now and will be ready to implement next year, we'll be able to have that conversation with the student body.

One of my focuses next year is to try to turn the SU to (be) more inward facing ... and a part of that is really trusting our VP (External) to handle the external relations.

Mohamed: Since a lot of our advocacy efforts and a lot of our organizational power is very limited, a lot of our advocacy efforts are top-down. I believe the way I would do

it differently is by creating a more bottom-up approach.

Essentially, the way I plan to do that is by ... reaching out to students and making an advocacy committee made up of councillors and executives and a bunch of students-at-large so that advocacy efforts can be consistent throughout the year.


Woods: It's a matter of being firm, and honestly, as cliched as it sounds, keep doing what we're doing.

We need to continue with our lobbying, we need to continue being firm with MLAs and with the administration to make it clear that our quality of education is not just something that can be up for cuts, or can be used to deal with budgetary deficits.

It's making sure that we're letting them know how we honestly feel, and how we honestly think the situation should be addressed.


Doge: Doge 4 prez support incoming VPAkademik in GFC reform. Halp VPA make atmutsfere Adorability of doges werx to student advantage in University & govt rlashuns - even cold-hearted admin & ministerz can b reached by doge luv.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.



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Three-way VP (External) race lobby to win top spot

Madeline Smith
GATEWAY STAFF • @MEKSMITH

The Vice-President (External) is responsible for Students' Union relations with the government and the larger community, and develops policy on issues such as post-secondary funding, co-ordinating provincial and national lobbying efforts, and improving the public profile of students and their concerns.

1 What are some of your platform goals and priorities?

Thomas Dang: I'm focusing on three main ideas: social justice, fairness to students and how we can make UAlberta ours.

We should be working to try to make students more included in discussions in everything to do with post-secondary education.

It's going to take a lot of lobbying against the government and establishing, perhaps, some sort of organized protest with students for issues that they find are big like MNIFs. Organized protests, going into the office and booking up all Minister Hancock's interview time and personal time, if we have to — stuff like that. If we have to do things like that to finally be heard, we have to do that.

Dylan Hanwell: The first is meaningful student employment. You talk about student employment programs that get students experience and help them build skills that they're going to use in their career. I think, for me, going through the non-profit sector is a really big thing for that. STEP was a good program; I think it can be misused. From the government's perspective, it could have been

misused. The Serving Communities Internship Program (SCIP) is the direction I'd like to push it. That's really meaningful work students are doing, especially in the non-profit sector.

Navneet Khinda: Provincially, when we're talking about student financial assistance, my big thing is shifting the conversation so we make policy more efficient. And what I mean by that is going away from things like universal grants to targeted, upfront, needs-based grants. A lot of the work is through lobby groups. And in the External portfolio, you can't do anything by yourself, especially when you're advocating to government. Obviously, I'll be working with CAUS and CASA, the provincial and federal lobby groups, to make sure the government hears our voice.

2 What are your thoughts on the current relationship between the Students' Union and the government?

Dang: I think the SU hasn't been doing enough hard action against them.

I don't think they're explicitly against us, but the government right now isn't really concerned with how students are being treated — they're just doing what they think is best.

Hanwell: I think it's pretty good. The external portfolio has done a pretty good job there. I think people are going to look at budget cuts and think that's a bad relationship or it can be construed as a bad relationship.

Our relationship could always be better, but it's in a good position right now.

Khinda: There's the potential for a really positive relationship in the



EXTERNAL EFFORTS Thomas Dang, Navneet Khinda and Dylan Hanwell are vying for VP (Ex).

MICHELLE MARK

future, especially now that we have a new minister who used to work in the Advanced Education portfolio about 10 years ago. I see that the relationship is rocky because we had the budget cuts, but I think there's room for a more positive relationship in the future.

3 Mandatory non-instructional fees are an issue in the VP (Ex) spotlight lately — is this a priority for you?

Dang: We should be pushing to get legislation on MNIFs into the PSLA. We should be setting up protests outside the Minister of (Advanced) Education's office.

Hanwell: It's not one of my three goals, but it is something that I think

has to be fixed. The problem that I see is that it's hard to get people to understand what MNIFs are.

Khinda: Absolutely. Talking about MNIFs is really important, because first of all, Premier Redford said budget cuts wouldn't fall on the backs of students.

4 If you were locked in a room with just Minister Hancock and yourself for 24 hours, how would you kill the time?

Dang: I'm really good at Flappy Bird. At least, I think I'm good — I have a score of 114. So I would challenge him to a Flappy Bird tournament.

Hanwell: One thing I really want to

learn how to do is on *How I Met Your Mother*, Marshall and Lily stand next to each other, and they're able to look straight into the camera and high five each other. And that takes a lot of skill, surprisingly. So I would get Minister Hancock and I to learn how to do that high five. So then in press conferences it would be like, we just passed something that makes all the students happy, and we'd just look into the camera and high five.

Khinda: This is a lame answer, but I would talk to him. I want to figure out who he is and where he comes from. Maybe we'd play some games. We could do trust falls.

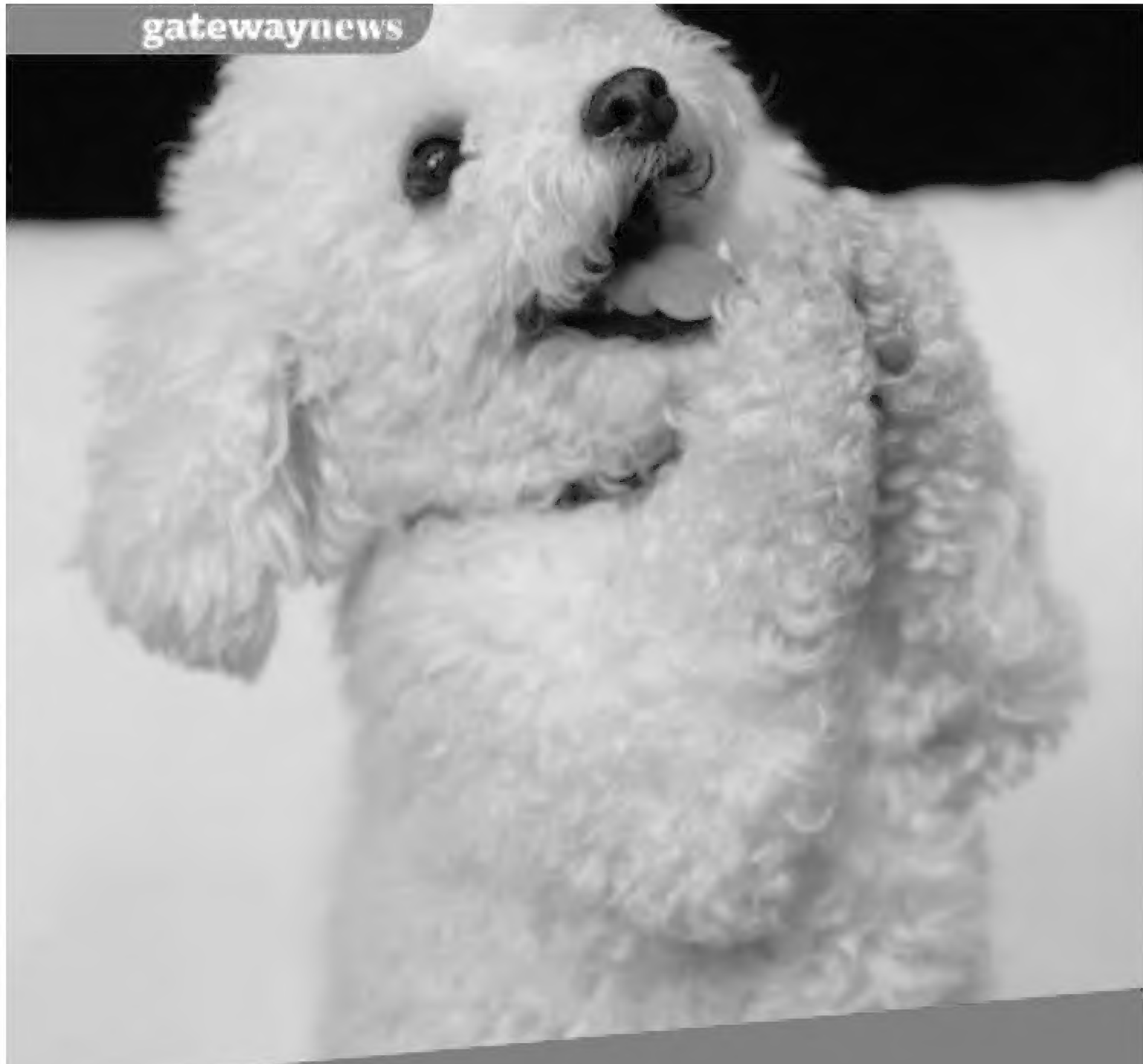
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This dog is running for President.

What have you done with your life lately?

Take a peek next week at our news section for more Students' Union elections coverage, hard-hitting dog stories and other miscellaneous articles to make you feel bad about your own leadership qualities.

NEWS MEETINGS MONDAYS AT 3 PM IN 3-04 SUB



STUDENT STRIFE Insung Peak, Parjanya Joshi, Fabian Gonzalez, Patrick Cajina and Nicholas Diaz are competing for the Student Life portfolio.

MICHELLE MARK

Heavily contested Student Life race sees five play to win

Collins Maina

GATEWAY STAFF ■ @COLLINSMAINAS

Caitlin Hart

GATEWAY STAFF

The Vice-President (Student Life) is responsible for university-related, non-academic issues including campus programming, university non-academic advocacy, the U-Pass, the Health & Dental Plan and SU Student Services.

1What are some of the goals you have for next year as VP (Student Life)?

Patrick Cajina: Primarily it's defending the student voice as well as strengthening the U of A community, and finally, as something fun to bring the university together, is to break another world record.

Nicholas Diaz: The three pillars of the platform are going to be diversifying events, increasing the advocacy portfolio and strengthening health services. The events one is going to be the fun one. We want to take some of the events that are happening in the Students' Union framework, for example SUBstage, and we want to get those out there to other parts of campus to get more people going to them.

Fabian Gonzalez: My idea for VP (Student Life) was that in the past a lot of people seem to bring a really big vision and not really accomplishing it because there are limits. What I want to do is to empower the people of the university to make their own choices to make this world a lot more efficient. If you take control you make followers, but if you give control you make leaders.

Parjanya Joshi: I have a few, let's say, some short-term goals, which I would like to see, which I'm pretty confident would see fruition by the end of next academic year. One of those is obviously the (Common Student Space, Sustainability and Services) fee ... Ideally speaking, I'd just like to see the fee flat out removed, and if that's not the case, revert it to what it was meant to be.

Another thing I want to revisit is the smoking policy, but not without getting a consensus. I want to see what people think of the current rules — is that enough?

Insung Peak: I have three main goals that I would like to accomplish for next year. Firstly, I would like to make that the student voice is heard not only by the Students' Union but also by the administration. Secondly, I would like to improve health and wellness on campus and thirdly, I would like to promote more diverse events on campus.

2What would you say is the single most important issue currently facing the Student Life portfolio? How would you approach that, if elected?

Cajina: I would say improving the representation international students have in the university, because they're kind of the silent majority that keep getting bigger and bigger with more and more problems pertaining to them in relation to their interactions with domestic students and issues with how their tuition is calculated, and really just integrating them into the university community.

Diaz: The Residential Tenancy Act doesn't cover dorm students on campus — it is something that has come up on William Lau's VP (SL) updates as one thing that they are considering solving residence issues. Problems with inspections, evictions, financial holds on accounts.

Gonzalez: I believe that the most important issue right now is mental health. The main issue with mental health is where people cannot open up to their friends because they feel that their friends may judge them. I want to give people an opportunity to find where they belong, to find a community for themselves and to find the support they need.

Joshi: It's currently the fees, and student wellness, mental wellness. I think the biggest issue is working with the university while also working on what you think is good for the students and student life.

That includes fees, residence and general advocacy.

Peak: Health and wellness. I strongly believe that we do have many good resources on campus, but there are not that many people who know about it. I would want to put that out there so that most of the students can know about it and so that they can use the resources when they need it.

3This year has been a difficult one for international students. How do you plan to work with them and advocate for their concerns next year?

Cajina: The (international students' association) is really big, it's a really exciting concept because it's the first time in like 20 years that we're having all the different international student groups come together, sit at the same table and discuss what they're experiencing.

Diaz: The most important part is getting their voice to the top because we as a Students' Union should not speak for them but we should speak with them — get them alongside us, get them working with us. I want to integrate cross-mode events with the international students association, get to contact and connect with some international students in order to amp up their culture.

Gonzalez: The very first thing I believe is telling international students that their vote matters, that they are a part of the Students' Union and that they are a part of campus life. They are a part of the community that brings their plight to the masses so that people stop seeing them as international students and start seeing them as good friends such as the cool people I have met who are international students.

Joshi: I plan on pushing the creation of an international students' association.

When it comes to student groups protesting ... if we have this giant umbrella, it's more effective.

Peak: I was very actively involved in the international differential fee

this year which was a very large issue. From that I learned how to get our voice out there and make sure that others' voices were heard.

4What's one issue that came up this year that you would have tackled differently from the current VP(SL)?

Cajina: I think a lot of our efforts were disproportioned in regards to what we were fighting for, for the (international differential fee increase). The university had it in their authority to pass the five per cent increase, but I think what we should have been pushing for was regulation of that fee and then push for the reduction.

Diaz: He largely plays a support role, and *The Gateway* was on him about that. They wanted him to be more of a mover and a shaker, because the Student Life portfolio has the potential to be a big mover and shaker — like be working more strongly with the VP (External) on that advocacy portfolio by getting them the data they need, for example.

Gonzalez: One of the things that William (Lau) does, which I do not seem to agree with, is that there doesn't really seem to be a lot of forward information — there doesn't really seem like there's much of a heads up on what is going to happen. A lot of people I know wanted to participate in AntiFreeze, but completely lost it because the advertising for AntiFreeze was really just a week before.

Joshi: Last year, I would've probably done another break the record. I think William (Lau) did a pretty great job. There could be more advocacy, like the advocacy team could've been pushed for more earlier in the year, so we could've worked on it this term so it's ready for next year.

Peak: One of the issues could be the international differential fee fight on our backs. I really think that they did a great job and that they did the best that they could do. However, I think it would have been better if international students are the ones who actually presented since it was

them who were going through.

5What ideas do you have for activities, events or programming that will engage students?

Cajina: I'd really like to blow up the health wave ... I think it's a great way to bring the university together. As well, I'd like to do another Break the Record, and I'm thinking something away from dodgeball, for some variety, and I was really thinking about like, a huge Coke and Mentos explosion, probably in Quad.

Diaz: As of right now with the Students' Union programming, we have got the four pillars of programming — Week of Welcome, Campus Cup, AntiFreeze and Break the Record — if we can get one more big event and start to move around all the smaller events on campus, reach out to Augustana and Saint Jean to start connecting to them that will be good.

Gonzalez: The very first thing is something I have been studying for a long time is a communication initiative where people wear different coloured bracelets to make it really easy to break the ice. For example, if I'm wearing yellow it means that I'm open to having a conversation, or if I'm wearing red, I am single and looking for someone.

Joshi: I definitely want to keep doing the regular things the SU does. I'd really like to do music therapy. I'd like to see an open mic night at RATT.

Apart from that, maybe an inter-faculty dodgeball. Engineering has already done a dodgeball tournament between the different disciplines, and created a kind of all-star team.

Peak: For one I would like to bring the "Return of the U of A" because through my university life it was one of the large campus-wide events that everyone enjoyed which brought people together. Also, I would like to do a multicultural event where all the cultures can represent themselves.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.

Personal Credits Notice



If you received a Common Experience Payment, you could get \$3,000 in Personal Credits for educational programs and services.

The Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The healing continues.

Since 2007, almost 80,000 former students have received a Common Experience Payment (“CEP”) as part of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. CEP recipients are now eligible to receive non-cash Personal Credits of up to \$3,000, for either themselves or certain family members, for educational programs and services.

What are Personal Credits? Personal Credits may be used for a wide range of educational programs and services, including those provided by universities, colleges, trade or training schools, Indigenous Institutions of Higher Learning, or which relate to literacy or trades, as well as programs and services related to Aboriginal identities, histories, cultures or languages.

How much are Personal Credits?

Adequate funds are available for each CEP recipient to receive up to \$3,000 in Personal Credits, depending on your approved educational expenses.

Which educational entities and groups are included?

A list of approved educational entities and groups has been jointly developed by Canada, the Assembly of First Nations and Inuit representatives. If an educational entity or group is not on the list, please consult the website for more information.

Will I receive a cheque? No. Cheques will be issued directly to the educational entity or group providing the service.

Who can use Personal Credits? CEP recipients can use the full amount themselves or give part or all of their Personal Credits to certain family members such as a spouse, child, grandchild or sibling, as defined in

CEP recipients have the option of sharing their Personal Credits with certain family members, such as:

- Children
- Spouses
- Grandchildren
- Siblings

the terms and conditions. Personal Credits of multiple CEP recipients can be combined to support a group learning activity.

How can I get Personal Credits? Each CEP recipient will be mailed an Acknowledgement Form. If you do not receive an Acknowledgement Form by the end of January 2014, please call 1-866-343-1858. Completed Acknowledgement Forms should be returned as soon as possible and must be postmarked no later than **October 31, 2014**.

How do I redeem my Personal Credits? Once approved, you will be sent a personalized Redemption Form for each individual using Personal Credits at each educational entity or group. Once the Form is received, provide it to the educational entity or group listed. The educational entity or group must then complete and mail back the Redemption Form postmarked no later than **December 1, 2014**.

What happens to unused Personal Credits? The value of unused Personal Credits will be transferred to the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund and Inuvialuit Education Foundation for educational programs.

For more information, including how Personal Credits can be redeemed by certain family members of CEP recipients that are deceased, visit www.residentialschoolsettlement.ca or call 1-866-343-1858.

The IRS Crisis Line (1-866-925-4419) provides immediate and culturally appropriate counselling support to former students who are experiencing distress.



ASPIRING ACADEMICS Rebeka Plots, Stephanie Gruhlke, Kathryn Orydzuk, Nisha Patel and Fahim Rahman are contending for the top grade.

MICHELLE MARK

Five-person competition heats up for VP (A) position

Alana Willerton
MANAGING EDITOR ■ @ALANAWILLERTON

Helen Quevillon
GATEWAY STAFF

The Vice-President (Academic) represents and advocates for student academic matters within the university community and beyond. The VP (Academic) is also responsible for encouraging and facilitating involvement in student government via faculty associations, General Faculties Council and other university communities.

1 Give us a brief overview of one or two of your main goals this year.

Stephanie Gruhlke: The first point is bringing back the focus to teaching. I mean, it's in Dare to Deliver, all over Dare to Deliver, that we need to be a leading institution in teaching and learning. I don't think it has been wholly translated over to the classroom yet. Speaking with students, there have been students who've said they're afraid to ask their teacher for help, they're afraid to tell their prof what they need from them, and I don't think that should happen.

Kathryn Orydzuk: I have many goals for the upcoming year, the most important of which is that I plan to implement mandatory rubrics for assignments that are over 20 per cent. It's very simple, professors will have to give a rubric out when they assign an assignment. The process for doing this is deceptively simple, it would have to be passed AC&GC executive committee, but students can be out voted on those committees so it's a matter of negotiating and making sure everyone's concerns are taken into account.

Nisha Patel: The first one would be to work at it from a top-down level. Try to get more mental health awareness and understanding about mental illness from the top. So work with faculty, work with deans, to try to implement faculty specific programs, work with the mental health centre trying to offer that type of programming to students so they can access it.

The second important thing, this kind of goes with my own background at the university, would be trying to encourage more support for co- and extra-curricular resources and activities. For a lot of students it goes hand-in-hand with their degree and their in-class learning.

Rebeka Plots: A really big one for me is making sure no more majors get cut down to minors. Last year that was really tough on a few students I knew and I don't think it was very fair to most students.

Fostering more active student involvement, not just through existing student groups, but also through working sort of individually with students and trying to get the more involved (to) maybe even start their own student groups.

Fahim Rahman: Teaching quality is (a) really big thing on campus. The university is often quick to point to the fact that they have the highest number of 3M Teaching Award winners out of any Canadian institution when it comes to post-secondary education, but at the same time, I think that for every student, they go to their 9 a.m. class and it's a lot different learning experience than their 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. class. And so you see a lot of variability across campus when it comes to the quality of learning that you get in a class. I'd like to see that standardized, as in raised to a higher level of standard.

2 What skills or experiences do you bring that make you the best candidate for VP (A)?

Gruhlke: I've been involved with student governance at an extraordinarily diverse level. At Augustana, we don't have student groups per se, we have clubs. I was president of a club my second year, my third year I was VP (Academic) for the Augustana Students' Association and SU councillor. I have attended every single Council meeting in person except for one.

Orydzuk: I love student governance. You know how some people have seen all the episodes of a TV show and can quote it? That is me with student governance. I just love

it and I have been involved in it every year.

In my fourth year, now, I'm the student governance officer. Since May 1 I have been working with student representatives, I have been advising them, creating resources and collecting data on student representative.

Patel: I definitely have a love of speaking and public speaking in particular. I know that's not necessarily what the job entails, but for three years of university and six years in total, I've been working at competitive debate and competitive public speaking. And so it's not just learning how to speak in front of a crowd, but it's how to generate ideas quickly and effectively. So understand a lot of information at once.

Plots: Well, I haven't been involved with Students' Council or organizations like ISSS or anything like that, but I'm really passionate about what I do. I feel like that really helps me. I'm a Political Science student — I haven't been involved with the Political Science Undergraduate Association either — but when it's something that you're really, really passionate about I feel that you can do really well with it.

Rahman: I've worked closely with the VP (Academic) for the past two years, had a pretty good working relationship with him through the Academic Relations Group, and also a really great experience on the Academic Relations Group. There I acted as both a delegate for him on some of his committees, so I have direct experience representing the views of 36,000 University of Alberta undergraduates.

3 Combatting high textbook costs has been an ongoing issue for the current VP (A). How, if at all, do you plan on continuing this initiative?

Gruhlke: The first point would be to expand the Be Book Smart campaign, because you can be book smart all you want, but again if there's additional learning material that you need — especially in the sciences, engineering where you have the online component — it's

really hard to buy used textbooks when you still need that software.

Orydzuk: My vision is to convert the silent room in the Students' Union Building into a textbook library. A quiet room full of comfy chairs, tables, and shelves of textbooks from a range of faculties and departments. After swiping a One-Card students would be free to read the textbooks available in the room at no cost beyond students' union fees that students already pay.

Patel: The Be Book Smart campaign is something that has been in place for awhile now, and it was really supported in the last year. We put up marketing materials at the bookstores, and we worked with librarians and stuff to make resources more accessible. I think the most important thing would be we have to work with professors.

Plots: It's hard to combat that when it's not the university that sets the prices, it's the publishers who set the prices. I would have to do more research into that but I would think it's pretty hard to go up against a publisher and tell them to decrease prices because they are already making to much money off of it.

Rahman: Work with the VP (External) to advocate to the provincial government or the federal government to cap the amount that textbook costs are allowed to rise by. Or look for more dedicated funding towards bursaries for students, or developing different ways of having textbooks, like ebooks.

4 What's one issue this year's VP (Academic) dealt with that you would've done differently?

Gruhlke: I have a lot of respect for this year's VPA. Again, I think it goes to the increased support for FAs.

I think that when the budget cuts did occur, there could've been more work done with Discover Governance with FAs ... You can't always rely on the outgoing FA executives to give advocacy training, to give the training that incoming executives need, the background knowledge.

Orydzuk: Something (Dustin Chelen) is working on right now is a review of the General Faculties Council. He is putting a big document together. I feel this is something that I would go about differently because the way that he is doing it, well, he may understand it better than I do, seems very bureaucratic and almost a very slow way of trying to achieve a very radical change.

Patel: I think the way that we've approached student scholarships was very messy this year.

When it came out that we were going to be supposedly cutting student scholarships for the year and when we were actually deferring them, Dustin made — and I don't blame him in any way — but he made a statement that was incorrect. He made a statement that caused a lot of panic.

Plots: I don't actually know.

Rahman: I would take a look really at mental health and how it relates to the classroom. I'd make that more of a priority. I know the previous VP (Academic) has done a lot of work and a lot of fantastic work, but I'd work on making (people) more aware of what's been done to help accommodate students.

5 As you may be aware, The Gateway has been publishing a haiku at the bottom of the masthead for the last semester. In haiku form, tell students why they should vote for you.

Gruhlke: Why would you vote Steph? / She sucks at haikus, it's true. / But rocks at the rest.

Orydzuk: Vote Kathryn Orydzuk / She has good experience / And good ideas.

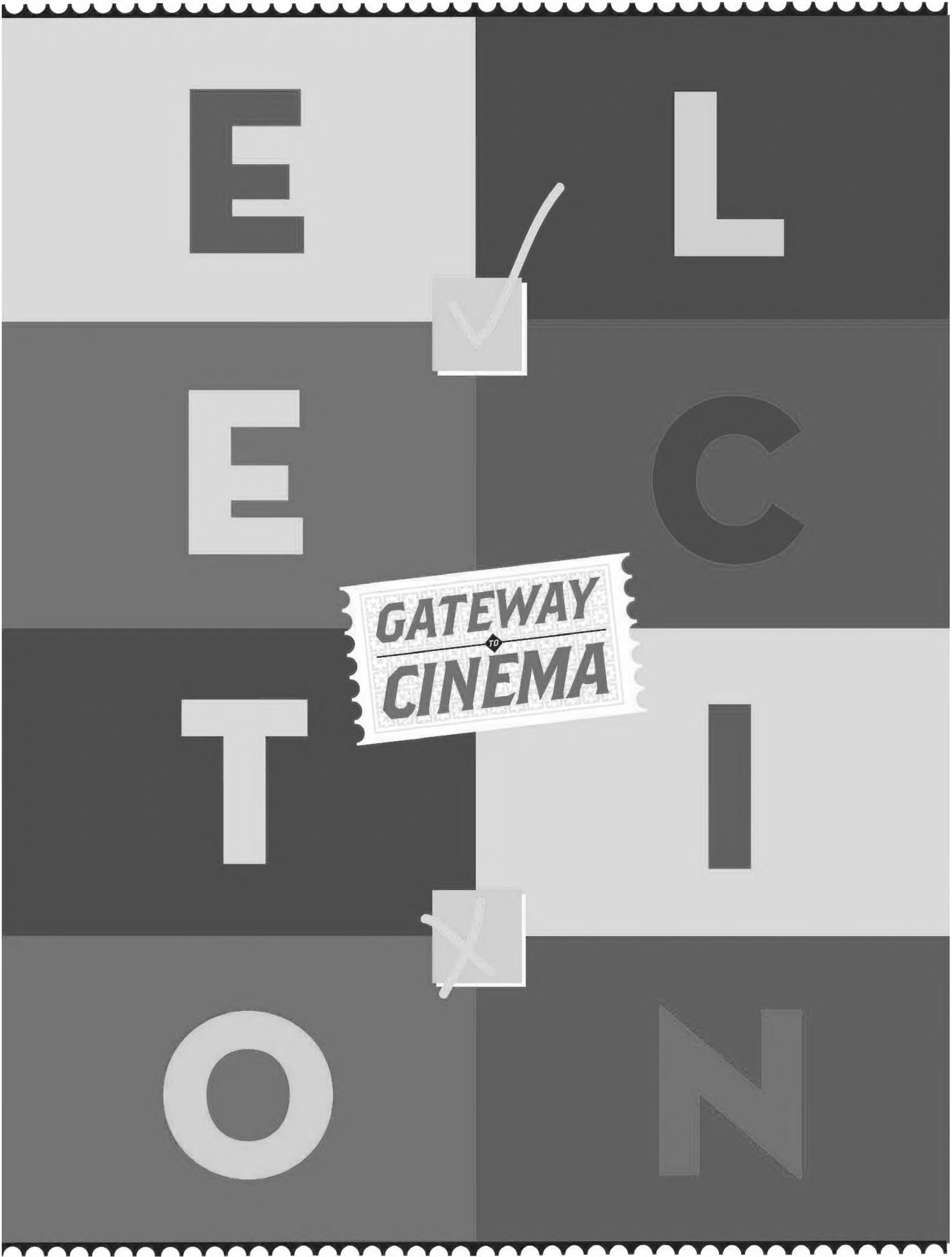
Patel: This isn't easy / But I can speak for you too / It's time, so believe

Plots: Vote me for VP / Academics are my jam / Haikus are hard

Rahman: My name is Fahim / I hope you believe in me / This is all for you.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.

03.19.2014 7PM AT METRO CINEMA



FREE MOVIE WITH STUDENT ID! DRINKS AT 630!
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Sole candidate shoots for Operations & Finance title

Michelle Mark

NEWS EDITOR • @MICHELLEAMARK

The Vice-President (Operations & Finance) is responsible for managing the SU's \$10 million budget. The VP (OpsFi) also oversees departmental operations, and works closely with the general manager and the President to manage the daily operations of the SU.

1 Give us an overview of your platform and your goals for the coming year as VP (OpsFi).

Cory Hodgson: There's three main points I want to hit on: oversight of student money, expansion of SU businesses and the business versus service question.

Currently, the SU requires faculty associations that collect a fee to go and get a review done by an accountant.

This is really tough, we found, for a lot of faculty associations due to their small size, so I'd like to internalize that whole process.

For expansion of SU businesses, I think a lot of students are dissatisfied by the amount of food options on campus, so I'd like to look into the SU expanding what it offers ... What I want to do is conduct a feasibility study of expanding L'Express, namely.

2 Why are you running for this position?

Hodgson: I've been the Audit Committee chair for the last two years. Through that, I gained a really good internal financial working of the SU — just a good knowledge of it ... I did my first year in Lister and I'm a Greek, and through those experiences I fostered my interest in student leadership and my interest in the SU.

3 If elected, how will you ensure long-term projects remain stable and on track?

Hodgson: What's nice about some of these projects starting to wrap up is we can start thinking high-level again about future project. I really would like to look at how we see our businesses in the long term, and develop some long-term planning on where we want to take our businesses — to actually grow them rather than just sticking with the status quo.

4 What's one issue that came up for this year's VP (OpsFi) that you would have tackled differently?

Hodgson: One of the big things Josh (Le) focused on this year was visibility and being out there ... I think all of that work is really good, and I look forward to continuing that — that's not necessarily what I would have done. I'm more of an introverted guy, not as out there as Josh, so I maybe wouldn't have done

that stuff, but I'm looking forward to continuing his work on it, because he's already laid the groundwork for it.

5 Many students are unsure of what the VP (OpsFi) does or how it affects them. Do you see communication with students as an important part of the portfolio?

Hodgson: It is, and it's probably best evidenced by the fact that I'm unopposed. I don't know if it scared people away or if they just don't find it that interesting.

It's like candy to me — I've always been really interested in this, so I would really like to continue some of the stuff Josh has done, as well as I'm planning to try and make it out to every event on campus I ever can, whenever my schedule allows it, just to be out there and talk to people about the job.

6 If you could use the SU's budget in whatever way you wanted, what would you do with all the money?

Hodgson: An idea that's been tossed around is to turn the sixth floor of SUB into a club and to have a two-story bar. Have a dance floor down there, turn it into a hookah lounge too. Just go all out on RATT and just make it a sensational place.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.



ONE-MAN WOLFPACK Cory Hodgson is running uncontested for VP (OpsFi). MICHELLE MARK

Board of Governors rep seat on the line for pair of candidates

Andrea Ross

STAFF REPORTER • @ROSSANDREA

The Board of Governors Representative sits on both Students' Council and the Board of Governors, the university's highest governing body. The board contains a mix of staff, alumni, students and public members, and is responsible for tuition levels, managing campus finances and approving new buildings.

1 Give us an overview of your platform and your goals for the coming year as BoG Rep.

Umer Farooq: I want to focus on students being involved in student government and an undergraduate perspective of the issues that are plaguing students on a day-to-day basis as well as on a year-to-year basis.

The university's primary goal should be catering to its students and their education and what's going to come after.

Our job, our goal is to forward that as much as possible. And we can do that by having students in student government, and regulating our budget, from international to domestic tuition, having transparency there, and removing financial redundancies.

Sangram Hansra: We need to work on developing a long-term non-dedicated funding plan, and that is the first priority. The other is to advocate increased financial disclosure and planning at the university. Another issue is advocating for improved student governance on the Board of Governors.

Making sure that the administration and the board are aware of basic student issues — mental health services, accessible prayer space for religious groups, support for international students.

From a council perspective there's a number of things I want to improve as well.



BOG BOYS Umer Farooq and Sangram Hansra are looking to beat each other out for BoG Rep.



MICHELLE MARK

2 How would you describe the current relationship between the Board of Governors and the SU?

Farooq: It's a little more strained than it has been in the past few years. The Board of Governors wants to look out for the financials, especially with the recent budget cuts that happened last year. And that's the primary goal, which is a big hurdle for them. And for the SU that standpoint is definitely a challenge but it's something that they're working towards and I believe I can help them.

Hansra: It appears that over the past few years the relationship has become increasingly adversarial, and it's highlighted by the timeline of the administration and SU on the increase in international student tuition (and) a reduction in trust between the two.

That's not to say that the relationship is not workable. However, the two parties had a working relationship that has resulted in tangible benefits for students, including the U-Pass and the expected fall reading week.

3 What's the greatest flaw with the way the Board of Governors currently functions? How would you address that?

Farooq: There's some lack of representation for some groups like international students, and with the recent tuition hikes that they received I believe something as major as that they should have had their own representatives who could have voiced their opinions rather than have to go through other organizations, or form organizations of their own to be able to properly lobby that decision.

I would say just being more

transparent and open with students so that more people are aware of them, because I feel like a major issue with the decisions that they make is when people aren't aware of them. They can pass a ruling at a certain meeting (and) the majority of students will not be aware of it other than the handful who pay attention to it on a day-to-day basis.

Hansra: The main issue with the Board of Governors is that the majority of members are appointed by the provincial government and public members. What I'd like to see is an increase in independence of the board — perhaps more undergraduate representatives, more graduate representatives, more representations from both professional and non-academic faculty. Most importantly I think there needs to be a larger component of alumni representation on the Board of

Governors.

4 How do you plan to communicate with students about the Board of Governors?

Farooq: I would really focus on social media in our day and age, because it's a major aspect. You need someone who is very good with social media, and the Board of Governors could be more far reaching to the 30,000 students. You also need the integrity to hold the decisions that have been made and at the same time side with students.

Hansra: The single answer that comes every year is to talk about increasing social media presence and every year there's little progress made in increasing communication on these issues. The reason partially for BoG representative specifically is because of legal and institution obligations requiring confidentiality in discussions with the Board of Governors. When we discuss communication, what we are really talking about is engagement.

The stronger the campus environment, the more engaged the student body.

5 What makes you the best candidate for this position?

Farooq: I am an undergraduate student, I have a neat perspective, and because I am mostly invested in the university's future for the next four or five years that I will be here, and that's time to implement and materialize.

Hansra: What makes me the best candidate is my experience. I've been on campus now for seven years ... I spent three terms on Students' Council and it has allowed me to (understand) both the strengths and the challenges of the Students' Union's advocacy.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.

Canadians call on Egypt to release Al Jazeera reporters

Preeteesh Peetabh Singh
THE DIALOG (GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE)

FULL DISCLOSURE: The Dialog Collective at George Brown College and The Canadian University Press have also extended support by signing on to the joint statement led by CJFE demanding their release.

TORONTO (CUP) — The Al Jazeera Media Network and Canadian Journalists for Free Expression (CJFE) held a press conference Feb. 6 in Toronto to demand the immediate release of journalists detained in Egypt.

On Dec. 29, Canadian-Egyptian journalist Mohamed Fahmy along with Peter Greste and Bahar Mohammed, all of *Al Jazeera English*, were imprisoned in Cairo.

“This is unacceptable to all of us around the world as journalists. The silence of any journalist anywhere on the planet is an attempt to silence ua all in one form or another.”

JOHN STACKHOUSE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, GLOBE AND MAIL

According to an article by Global National, Fahmy’s family say the trial will begin Feb. 20.

Fahmy is accused of using illegal equipment, broadcasting false news and being a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, which has been labelled a terrorist organization by Egypt’s military-led government.

Michelle Shephard, a CJFE board member and national security reporter for the *Toronto Star* said, “The charges are ludicrous.”

Owen Watson, the executive news producer at Al Jazeera English said, “They were just doing their job.”

According to Watson, Fahmy



JOURNALISTS UNITE Owen Watson, executive producer at Al Jazeera, and Tomhenheffer, executive director of Canadian Journalists for Free Expression. SUPPLIED: PREETESH PEETABH SINGH

required medical attention as his shoulder was badly injured, but instead he is being forced to sleep on the floor.

Their Al Jazeera colleagues Abdullah Al Shami and cameraman Mohammed Badr were also detained in Aug., 2013.

While Badr has been acquitted of all charges and released recently, Shami remains in custody.

John Stackhouse, editor-in-chief of the *Globe and Mail*, said that Fahmy should not be treated differently by the Canadian government although he has dual citizenship.

“There is only one Canadian, and we are all entitled to the same treatment

from the government and from each other,” said Stackhouse.

Stackhouse also brushed aside the suggestion that Al Jazeera is not a legitimate international news organization, as “hogwash.”

The United Nations and United States of America have already criticized and condemned the detention of journalists in Egypt.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said that the journalists should be protected and permitted to do their job.

Canada’s stand on this has been “soft,” “sometimes mute” and “shameful,” according to the members of the media coalition present at the press

conference.

On the silence maintained by the Canadian government, CBC veteran journalist Avi Lewis said, “Free speech is contagious, and silence and censorship are contagious too.”

“This is unacceptable to all of us around the world as journalists. The silence of any journalist anywhere on the planet is an attempt to silence us all in one form or another,” Stackhouse said.

John Greyson, a filmmaker and professor at York University, emphasized that government intervention makes a difference, as they did, in his and Takek Loubani’s case when they were detained in Egypt for 50

days in the fall.

Greyson described his and Loubani’s experience at the Egyptian jail as a feeling of going “down the rabbit hole” with no hope of coming back.

Dave Enders, a former colleague and a friend of Fahmy who was also present at the conference, said that Fahmy was aware of the possibility of being jailed and he told Enders “to make some noise when I get arrested.”

People from all over the world have come out in support of journalists detained in Egypt. Twitter campaign #FreeAJStaff has picked up momentum.

Prairies universities seeing increased advocacy education

Anna Lilja-Dawson
CUP PRAIRIES AND NORTHERN BUREAU CHIEF

SASKATOON (CUP) — Advocacy education is becoming more prominent in medical students’ classrooms as working physicians are advocating for their patients at increasing rates.

Ryan Meili, an associate professor from the department of community health and epidemiology at the University of Saskatchewan, said that advocacy is becoming an increasingly important aspect of being a physician as it has recently been recognized in the CanMEDS Physician Competency Framework.

The framework outlines physicians should be medical experts foremost but should also have defined roles as communicators, collaborators, managers, scholars, professionals and health advocates.

“(The framework) to me is a really positive thing. That’s a fairly recent development but it recognizes that (advocacy is) not an extra; it’s part of what a physician is supposed to be,” Meili said.

“A role that I think is very important and probably not one that we really have a handle on is teaching well or helping physicians to understand well how to integrate into their practice,” he added. He later said the most common complaint he hears regarding advocacy is that doctors recognize when there are public health issues, but are unsure of how to address them.



ILLUSTRATION: STEPHANIE MAH

The U of S currently has a number of courses, such as the emergency medicine residency program, that have students complete an advocacy research project. But increasing advocacy in medical students’ education at the U of S is an area that Meili said requires attention — specifically in other residency programs when there is a heavy focus on clinical skills.

But Dr. Lee Green, professor and chair of the department of family medicine at the University of Alberta, wrote in an email to the Canadian University Press that whether or not physicians should be advocates is a debatable issue.

“Some believe strongly we should be, others quite the opposite. I don’t

think there’s a right answer there. Med students do get some formal preparation for advocacy, largely in the form of quality and safety teaching, but it’s something far less than the entire class takes advantage of,” Green wrote.

Medical students are being exposed to advocacy earlier than before through organized events such as the Canadian Federation of Medical Students’ (CFMS) annual Lobby Day.

The CFMS’ Lobby Day gives medical students across Canada an opportunity to try their hand at advocating for health issues, helping to prepare them to be practicing physicians.

Melanie Bechard, the chair of the

government affairs and advocacy committee for the CFMS, said the annual event has two purposes — to communicate health-care issues to policy makers and to educate medical students about advocacy.

“There is an increasingly greater move towards training medical students as advocates, but we think that Lobby Day helps enhance their education,” Bechard said. She added that students who participate get a full day of training in preparation for the event that includes speakers who are experienced in health-care advocacy.

“We have speakers from across the country who have done wonderful advocacy in health care come and speak to our students to inspire

them and also teach them how to advocate effectively.”

Lobby Day 2014 took place on Feb. 3 when medical students met with 65 senators and members of Parliament to lobby for continued support of affordable housing programs and relief of federal medical student debt during residency.

Samuel Fineblit, a medical student from the University of Manitoba, said although his program offers population and public health courses, students should receive more education pertaining to their roles as advocates while being physicians.

The CFMS Lobby Day gives medical students a chance to be exposed to advocacy, Fineblit said, who sits on the government affairs and advocacy committee for the CFMS.

Lindsay Bowthorpe, a second-year medical student at U of A, agrees that it’s difficult to teach students everything they need to know before becoming doctors.

But Bowthorpe said she has learned about physicians’ roles as advocates by attending the federal lobby day twice and having organized the provincial lobby day this year.

“Speaking from the Alberta perspective, there are a lot of opportunities to get involved and I think it’s just a fantastic way to realize that you can make a difference in another form that can influence the health of Canadians.”

Opinion

Opinion Editor

Darcy Ropchan

Email

opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca

Phone

780.492.6661

Twitter

@drropcha

Volunteer

Opinion meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Terrible conditions of Sochi should not be tossed aside

HOCKEY FANS ACROSS CANADA, FROM VANCOUVER TO ST. JOHN'S, piled into bars in the wee hours of Sunday morning to watch their nation's team win Olympic Gold for the second straight Winter Games — the first time this had been done since 1948 and '52. As usual for the Games, Canada's favourite sport captured the imagination of a nation and led to a memorable, golden ending that will be burned in the memory of Canadian hockey fans for years to come.

Nothing can or should be taken away from this accomplishment. Likewise, nothing should be taken away from any of Canada's 25 medals won at Sochi. But deeming them a successful Winter Games and one that should be fondly remembered by sports fans is ridiculous when put up against the cost that it took to put them on in the first place.

As we all continue to bathe in the afterglow of the dominating performance our country had in Sochi, it's an incredibly depressing buzz-kill to point out the variety of issues that should be taken with Russia. Nevertheless, it's something we should all take notice of and speak up about.

Time after time, nations not only spend an exorbitant amount of money to host the games, build facilities and perform entirely unnecessary and ridiculously extravagant opening and closing ceremonies, but lately host countries of major sporting events are committing unforgivable actions while simultaneously preparing to host the rest of the world in their country. These actions are too often all but forgotten about once the competitions begin.

Reporters openly discuss how nations with questionable human rights records like China in 2008 and now Russia with their treatment of their LGBTQ community must strive to look good under the close scrutiny of the international eye on the world's athletic stage. But openly acknowledging this reality should lead us to question why they were given the honour of hosting the Games in the first place, or why our government doesn't take a stand and prevent their athletes from attending.

The same problem faces the 2022 World Cup in Qatar that's currently undergoing preparation. Migrant workers face poor conditions and are prevented from leaving in what's being equated by some reporters to a form of modern-day slavery. According to an article written by the UK's *The Guardian*, Nepalese workers preparing Qatar for the World Cup are dying at a rate of one per day. Come 2022, other nations would be doing a disservice to the memory of the people suffering in those conditions to send their best athletes to Qatar.

Similar problems exist in more developed nations hosting the Games too. A number of North American athletes spoke out about stray dogs being killed in Sochi, but not as much was heard from athletes about the reason those dogs were likely strays in the first place. Thousands of families were displaced from their homes to make room for Olympic facilities and many families who fled likely had to leave their pets behind.

This isn't the first time citizens have been displaced to make room for the Games. London's 2012 Summer Games required housing estates be torn down to make way for Olympic facilities, displacing hundreds of tenants to struggle and find shelter somewhere else. Yet once the Games begin, these stories are often shelved by media outlets looking to focus on the wonder and thrill of competition in the Games.

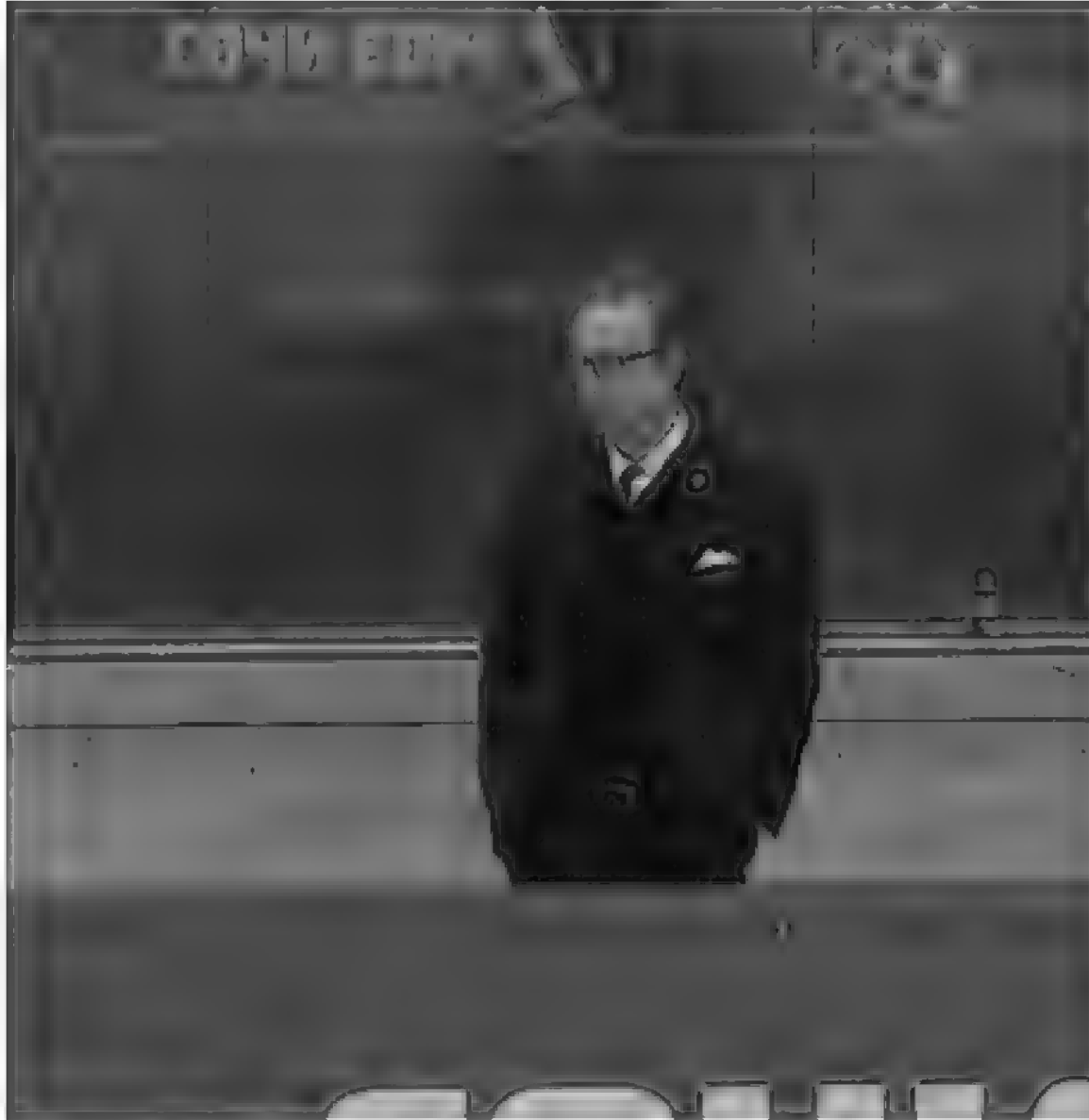
It's difficult for us as viewers at home to be able to focus on these things when these stories aren't as prominent in our Olympic coverage. And it's easy to shrug at this news and believe there's nothing you can do to change the situation of those kicked out of their homes and facing dangerous working conditions to host an athletic contest that lasts a couple of weeks.

The responsibility should lie in the reporters covering these games to report on the most disturbing but pressing issues affecting the Games or the World Cup. And there should be a responsibility on the athletes competing and the nations sending them to stand up against awful actions taking place for the sake of hosting a sporting event, as prestigious as that event may be.

More awareness from major news organizations in North America should highlight the terrible or suspicious conditions that lead into global sporting events like the Olympics or World Cup. It doesn't do a disservice to the athletes competing in these games to give equal coverage to the groups of people being harmed to host these Games.

Most Canadians will naturally remember Sochi 2014 for the hockey dramatics that closed the men's and women's tournaments with Canadian gold, but they also shouldn't forget or accept the terrible actions committed by countries for the sake of hosting them

Andrew Jeffrey
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



ANTHONY GOERTZ

Letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

Move by council sets good precedent

(Re: "Editorial — Council making the wrong moves with international tuition," by Andrew Jeffrey, Feb. 12)

Andrew, here are a few points that I would kindly like to reply to your piece.

I disagree that "the news... was met with a resounding shrug by most students." I can assure readers that the decision taken by the SU was applauded and appreciated by more than a few students, international and domestic alike. Perhaps chatting with students outside your own comfort zone would bring about a more balanced opinion.

The SU should represent and stand up for the interest of all its members. The \$2,500 fee was approved to help international students obtaining a legal opinion to protect their rights. Last year the SU approved a \$10,000 legal fee to defend the rights of Lister students against the university administration. That was way larger than what was approved this time, and it was directly benefiting a smaller segment of the population. Lister residents in general were probably more vocal than the population of international students, but a fair SU should not pick and choose its favourites. The SU should take action to support whichever members in need, especially those in not-so-privileged situations, and this time is no different.

Yes, it could ultimately go nowhere, but it wouldn't be a waste. Students

went out during exam period in freezing weather and organized protests against the increase to international tuition fee, and the fee increased anyway. Was that a waste too? No. Only when you speak up will others hear your voice. If you don't speak up, silence is all you will ever get.

Also, this is not a "pet project... taken on by a councillor." This motion and the bigger issue of equal rights for students were spearheaded by students outside of the SU Council, with the collaboration and support of many more students and shareholders. In fact, equal rights is not just one person's project, it belongs to everyone.

In short, does it set a precedent? If you think so, then yes. Is it a good precedent? Certainly.

Richard Zhao

VIA WEB

Passivity is a problem

(Re: "Editorial — Council making the wrong moves with international tuition," by Andrew Jeffrey, Feb. 12)

I have been following *The Gateway* much closer lately. Unfortunately, I've been noticing that many articles and editorials are lacking good and relevant information. In my opinion, this is very irresponsible because as the main newspaper on campus, *The Gateway* has quite a great power to influence the student body (whether that should be its purpose is a different topic).

One of the problems that the SU has been dealing with is passivity. People can complain on Facebook or Twitter and that's fine, but it doesn't

really resonate much with the people that take the decisions. What the SU — and especially William Lau — did last December about the IDF hike is amazing. Around 150 people came out at 7 a.m. during finals, without caring about the weather, just to show that they disapproved the proposal. And that was just one of the many other projects to fight the proposal. The SU got hundreds of both domestic and international students to express their rejection to the proposal and, since the beginning, the legality of the issue was being discussed. To allocate \$2500 for legal advice on the issue is by no means a waste of money. To discuss the issue in a council meeting is by no means a waste of time. I believe that mentality is ultimately just breeds passivity, and that makes the job of the SU even harder.

Dear Andrew, giving up without exploring our options is not the appropriate thing to do. It may be a costly war to fight the legality of the IDF, but with the right information, it is much easier to find an alternative cost-effective path. Information gives you power after all. Even if the final advice is that it is indeed legal, students will know what path should not be taken to tackle this issue. The long-term goal will remain to have regulation in place that caps International Tuition increases.

I'm afraid that, in this case, the proposal made by Councillor Mohamed does indeed represent the student needs and desires. The proposal is not a sign of lack of support by international students.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS • PAGE 14

La médecine, un choix d'avenir

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Microaggression a stupid concept



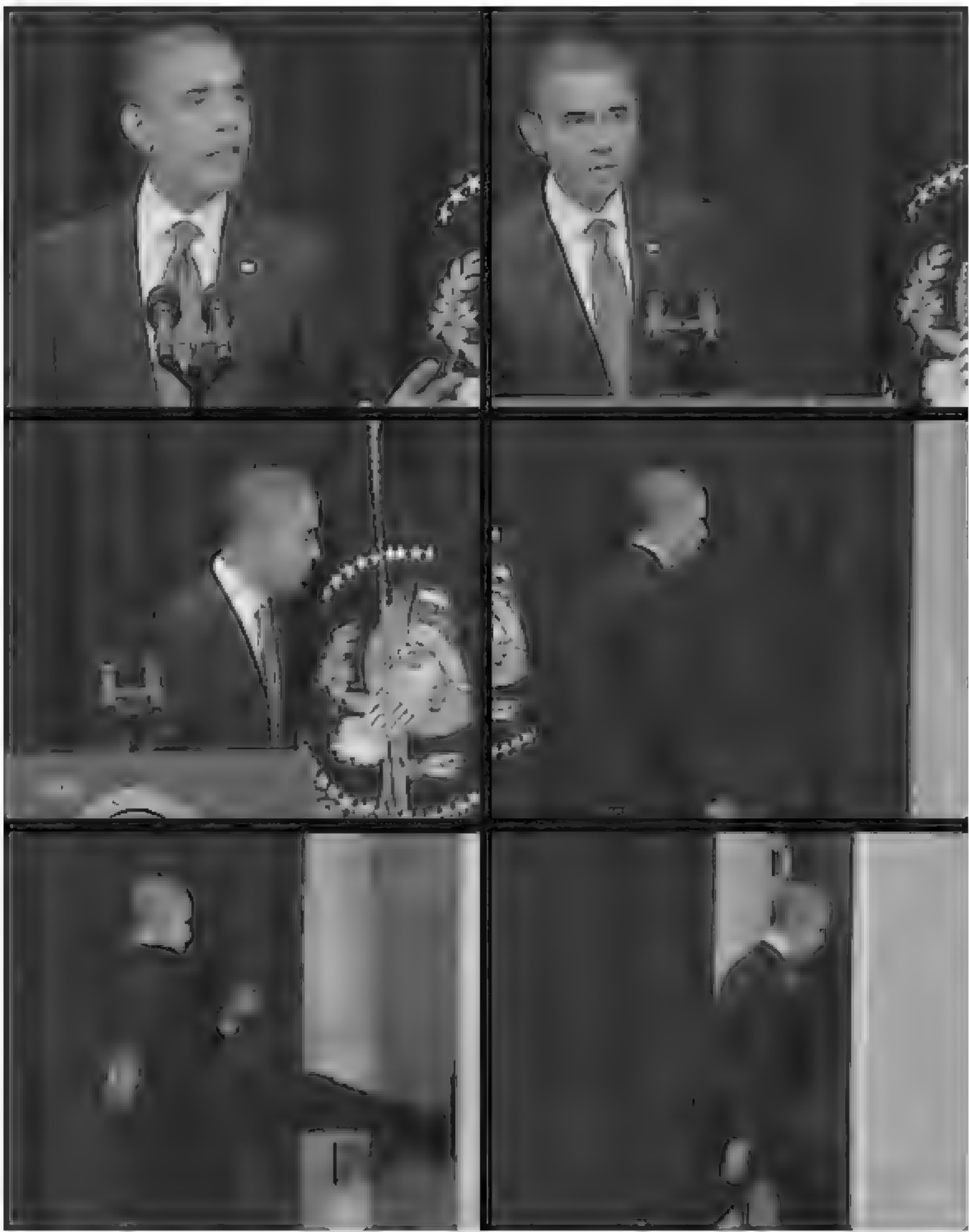
Tyler Hein
OPINION WRITER

Last October, McGill University student Brian Farnan, VP (Internal) of McGill's Student Society, included a link in a campus-wide email to a clearly fake clip from *The Tonight Show*, which portrayed U.S. President Barack Obama kicking open a door to exit a press conference along with a message saying, "Honestly midterms get out of here." After months of internal hearings, Farnan issued a lengthy apology this last week for continuing a "cultural, historical and living legacy surrounding people of colour — particularly young men — being portrayed as violent in contemporary culture" through this seemingly innocuous gesture. He has vowed to undergo sensitivity training.

The formal complaint — yes, that's singular — against Farnan accused this email and attached video of being an act of "microaggression" — an increasingly common term on university campuses referring to acts of insensitivity against minority groups, often with the aggressors not even realizing they're causing harm, according to a *National Post* article.

The issue with this concept of microaggression is that, by definition, it's up to the interpretation of the perceived victim. This used to be called a misunderstanding at worst, and tended to fall under the general term of "human communication."

Someone, somewhere, somehow was offended by something, and for some reason that became a rational argument in and of itself. If I make enough noise, then my feelings trump society's common sense every time. This is especially true on a university campus full of legitimately bright people wanting to make a



SUPPLIED

difference, who then grow impatient at a lack of proper issues within their limited wheelhouse and instead rally behind these trumped up problems to a so-called progressive society.

In our march for a more accepting, progressive society, we're beginning to lose the need for individual progress. For instance, something that would have previously been seen as a simple character flaw is now often deemed a result of a mental disorder, if not a point of pride that requires an internet call for de-stigmatization and a full-on movement for acceptance.

Real issues in need of being addressed didn't stop being addressed, but these faux-issues of singular distress have clouded the discourse.

It's becoming harder and harder to say anything that even touches upon issues of race, gender, orientation or the like without tip-toeing, backtracking and watering-down dialogue in order to appear as sensitive as possible to all parties. Above all, it's cheapening the real problem of damaging prejudice that still exists, the kind that we as university students should be fighting and organizing against.

One can only hope that this doesn't continue, as it engulfs any ability to behave like rationale, normal people. But it's doubtful. The world as we once knew it may soon end not with a bang, but with a series of Tumblr posts complaining that the word "bang" is too sexual.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

I have the chance to communicate to councilors (that consult me) the needs of a great portion of international students. Instead—and I do not mean this as an offence, but —, your editorial makes me wonder if you — specially as editor-in-chief — are gathering enough information before publishing what is in my opinion a polarising entry. I do respect your opinion and appreciate that you express it. In fact, I encourage you to keep questioning the system and if it's working as intended. But let's just say that a better informed piece is always better appreciated.

Diego Luces
VIA WEB

You're pro GMO

(Re: "GMO's are nothing to be scared of," by Adrian Lahola-Chomiak, Feb. 12)

This author uncritically repeats pro-GMO talking points dreamed up by ag-biotech PR types and doesn't mention even one downside such as the dramatically increased use of herbicides with GMO crops that has resulted in widespread environmental pollution.

Grant Ingle
VIA WEB

We're all together here

(Re: "Indigenous Feminism: In Theory and Practice," by Billy-Ray Belcourt, Jan. 29)

You are my sisters no matter the nation or race, and the one thing that has always held us back from an equal status in all walks of life is our inability to bond together as men do, and education is and always will be the key women are still being disrespected in all walks of life and we are expected to ignore it and take it on the chin. This is occurring in the home, at school, at work and most definitely in music which upsets me the most as so many young people are being taught daily that women are sub-citizens I really don't understand the African Americans fought so hard for equal status and now teach disrespect to all women and the girls are believing that they have less worth in society and are only born to be the chattel of men. Thank you for trying to make a difference.

Denise
VIA WEB

It was certainly a crime

(Re: "Indigenous Feminism: In Theory and Practice," by Billy-Ray Belcourt, Jan. 29)

It wasn't an "alleged" crime, it was an actual crime. Those four white men were involved in one way or another. Calling it an "alleged" crime despite the evidence and confessions of the perps is to dishonour her memory, her life and the lives of all indigenous people who continue to

have to fight for someone to believe us when we share what white people have done to us. In other words, it privileges the offender.

"nehikal"
VIA WEB

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

I cannot believe that reading week is over — it went by so damn fast. The worst part about the whole thing is that I got absolutely no work done. I'm actually in worse shape than I was going into reading week. It's starting to stress me out big time.

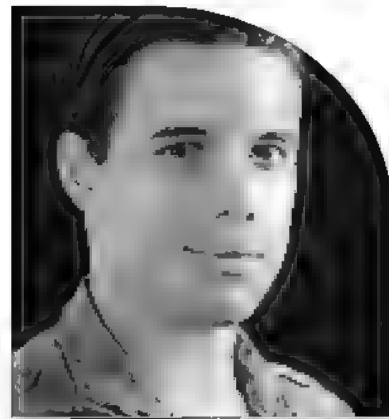
I feel like it's the same shit every year. I always say that I'm going to power through all those papers and assignments I have piling up, but in reality that's never the case. Procrastination isn't a choice for me — it's a lifestyle. I can't help procrastinating. I can't stop. It's such a vicious cycle that can never be broken. What is to become of me now? I have no idea. Somebody please come here and help me out of this mess.



CHUG THAT BEER A beer drinking contest would be the perfect way to test an SU candidate.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION KEVIN SCHENK

There are way too many people running for SU exec positions



Darcy Ropchan
OPINION EDITOR

“Let’s not forget the importance of physical strength as well. You may have the best campaign platform ever, but if you don’t have the muscle to back it up, I’m not interested. Potential candidates could prove this to me by carrying my books and bags around campus for me.”

There are too many candidates in this year’s Students’ Union elections — it’s nearly impossible to keep up with. According to the SU’s website, there are 21 candidates vying for executive positions. In past years, people may have prattled on about student apathy and a lack of choice when it comes to SU elections, but this is getting ridiculous. I thought having a ton of candidates to choose from would be a great thing, but it just ends up being confusing and frightening for me.

I get it, democracy is supposed to be this great thing that anyone can participate in — but there has to be reasonable limits on who can participate. Uncontested races were great because I wouldn’t have to think or make decisions about things. If there were only two candidates in a race, I would just vote for whoever had the better poster or coolest sounding name. But with most races featuring three to five contenders, things are different this year. Instead of forcing me to do more research and become a better-informed voter, the SU should be catering to my incredibly lazy and apathetic nature. Instead of

allowing just anybody to run for an executive position, the SU should have a ruthless and rigorous pre-screening process for would-be candidates. I’m talking about testing the mental and physical prowess of potential candidates through a series of gruelling tests — like solving puzzles or taking part in a beer drinking contest. It’s a great way to make sure only the best of the best get a chance to run for my vote.

The most important skill that any person — especially a politician — can have is the power of bullshitting. You need to be able to gab on and on about issues that you have little to no understanding of. The best way to test candidates for this is by forcing them to carry on multiple conversations with people in Tory atrium. It’s simple: we have a line-up of around 30-40 people and force each SU exec hopeful to have a one to two minute conversation with each person. If they can keep up the conversation and keep their sanity, then they may be granted a chance to run in the election.

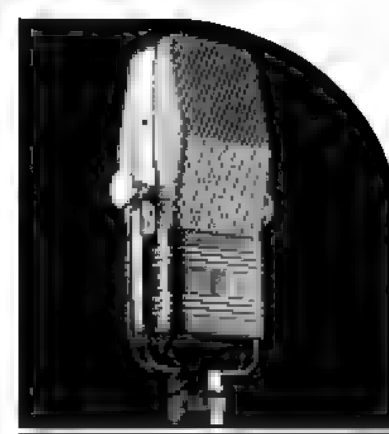
Let’s not forget the importance of physical strength as well. You may

have the best campaign platform ever, but if you don’t have the muscle to back it up, I’m not interested. Potential candidates could prove this to me by carrying my books and bags around campus for me. It might not have anything to do with whatever platform you’re pushing, but it would definitely make me feel better. The less tired my arms are, the easier it will be for me to vote for you after I pick NOTA and whoever the joke candidate is.

The last test requires all the cunning that each potential candidate may or may not possess. Each hopeful candidate will be given 20 minutes to solve a Rubik’s Cube. I feel this will pretty much disqualify a good 80 - 90 per cent of potential candidates — meaning that making a choice on election day will become much easier. Solving a Rubik’s Cube may not actually prove anything, but if you can solve it in less than 20 minutes, you deserve to hold any elected office.

Make it easier to pick SU candidates by offering students less of choice. It may sound counter-productive, but too much choice is a bad thing.

Redford shouldn’t have spent exorbitant money on travelling



Marc W. Kitteringham
THE GRIFF

Premier Alison Redford recently took a trip to South Africa for the funeral of Nelson Mandela. She was part of the Canadian delegation to the funeral, having worked with Mandela in the past, so she flew with Stephen Harper and the rest of the delegates on a government-sponsored plane. Nova Scotia premier Stephen McNeil was also on the delegation and his trip to South Africa cost Nova Scotians less than \$1,000.

Why then, did Redford’s trip wind up costing \$45,000? Apparently this question even stymied Redford; she said she was surprised at the bill for the trip. In an announcement at Foothills Composite High School, she told reporters, “I don’t think it is acceptable. I was disappointed.” This is one time where I would have to agree with Redford. The cost of the trip was unacceptable.

The \$45,000 price tag breaks down like this: the province spent roughly \$14,000 for Redford and an aide to travel to Ottawa and join the delegation on Harper’s plane. Once there, her aide, Brad Stables — who wasn’t on the delegation and couldn’t get a seat on Harper’s jet — boarded a commercial flight to South Africa for approximately \$20,000 round trip. Redford flew for free with the delegation.

After the funeral, Redford and Stables decided it would be best to leave early to be back for the swearing in of Alberta’s Provincial cabinet. Since there was a possibility of a free flight on Harper’s plane being delayed, she opted for a commercial flight back to Canada.

This flight cost roughly \$10,000. The other \$1,000 would have been for small expenses like food. When asked about the cost and her travel plans, Redford said, “I’m not making my own travel arrangements in those circumstances.”

This is not the first time Redford’s spending has come under criticism.

She recently came back from a trip to Switzerland and India that cost about \$120,000. This, combined with the \$45,000 bill for the South Africa trip, means the Alberta government has spent \$165,000 on travel this year alone, more than three times an average Canadian’s annual salary, according to Statistics Canada, and it’s only February.

I understand that politicians need to travel more than anyone

else. It’s part of the job. But politicians should have more accountability to those who elected them. When traveling, they should have to search for the best deals and the cheapest flights just like us — more than us, even. It’s the least they can do considering our tax dollars pay for much of their travel expenses.

It makes sense for some government expenditure for international travel, but Redford and her Conservatives are taking that to the extreme.

McNeil, Nova Scotia’s premier, traveled from Halifax to Ottawa for around \$450 per trip. He wasn’t even flying economy class. There’s no reason Alison Redford needed to travel to Ottawa on a private jet.

The Progressive Conservative travel budget increased \$130,000 dollars in 2013 to around \$800,000. This was at the same time as they froze wages for Alberta Union of Provincial Employees workers in the province and froze operational spending (money spent to keep the government running) in last year’s provincial budget.

■ I understand that politicians need to travel more than anyone else. It’s part of the job. But politicians should have more accountability to those who elected them. When traveling, they should have to search for the best deals and the cheapest flights just like us — more than us, even.

It’s true that government travel expenses this year only add up to around \$20 per Albertan, but that’s not the point here. The high travel costs compared to the freezing of Union workers’ wages and operational government spending illustrates a kind of elitism and entitlement in government that has no place in a time of provincial deficits.

I would love to be able to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars per year traveling. That would be amazing.

But unfortunately, since I’m not a member of the Conservative party, I can’t do that. Hopefully they’ll realize they shouldn’t be doing that either.

In the meantime, all I can hope for is a measly job over the summer. Hopefully that is enough to pay for travel.



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The five types of assholes you’re going to meet on Tinder



Shannah Barros
OPINION WRITER

In anticipation of Valentine’s Day last week, I was desperate for a date, so I turned to the most reliable resource for romance I know: Tinder. An app that offers you a stack of pictures of guys or girls to peruse and accept or reject with just a swipe — nothing could be wrong with that. But despite the seemingly endless list, when you boil it down, there’s really only five types of guys to choose from.

Number 1: The sensitive guy.

These are the guys who try to seduce you with sensitivity. Their pictures are always either of them holding a cute baby or an adorable puppy — that way you know he’ll make a sweet and caring boyfriend without even having to talk to him. Either that or he’s hoping you’ll be won over by the puppy and not even care how funny looking he really is.

Number 2: The group pic guy

What if a guy doesn’t have a pet or baby handy? Enter the group-pic guy. This second type of Tinder man never posts selfies, only shots of him and at least one other person. You scour all of his pictures trying to pick out exactly which boy you’re about to like. If he’s really wily, his first picture will feature him and his super sexy best friend causing you to immediately to “swipe right for like” without checking out the



EXQUISITE BOYS Girls on Tinder love getting dick pics.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION KEVIN SCHENK

rest of his pictures. That way, even if you end up going out with the less attractive guy, at least you’ll be that much closer to the eye candy.

Number 3: The guy you know

The third kind of guy is the one that leads to the toughest choices: the guy you know. Whether you know him from a class or high school, if he’s a friend or an ex, finding someone you know on Tinder always causes a dilemma. Do you risk saying no and forgoing the chance

to find out if they like you? Do you say yes risking rejection if they haven’t liked you back? Or worse, if he does like you back, do you want to deal with the palpable sexual tension that will inevitably arise every time you see each other for the rest of your lives? Then there’s the guys you run into in real life who you only know because you’ve liked each other on Tinder. Do you smile when you see them in the library or quickly whip out your phone and pretend to text to avoid acknowledging the fact

that you’ve both considered what it would be like to make out with each other.

Number 4: The cheesy pick-up line guy

On-campus run-ins become particularly uncomfortable when they happen with the fourth Tinder-type. Those guys are the ones who aren’t afraid to use the cheesiest of pick up lines to earn themselves a date. A simple “Hi, how are you?” just doesn’t cut it in the Tindersphere.

Some might just send you a kissy emoji, but the pros really know how to turn a phrase. My personal favourite: “Is your last name Gillette? Because you are the best a man can get.” That line almost got me. But nothing will ever top the unabashed man that sends out propositions offering the ladies of Tinder the chance to earn a dinner date with him — so long as they bring him a six-pack of beer, pass the trial hang out before dinner and agree to leave behind the remaining beer if they don’t pass. Never has a man found a more direct way to a woman’s heart.

Number 5: The dick pic guy

Although those bold boys who have a way with words have not notch Tinder game, everyone knows a picture is worth a thousand words, making the final type of guy the Tinder king. I am of course referring to those men who bear it all: the nudes. Some are cheekier than others, posting mirror shots of them copying the Coppertone girl. Other bathroom shots are full frontal, and despite being censored by a black rectangle still manage to show off the tip of his dick. The ultimate naked Tinder man, however, is the one who doesn’t shed his pants alone. A combo of guy number two and five, the boy who posts nude group shots featuring all his sexy friends is the winner of Tinder.

With only these five types, it might seem like Tinder’s prospects are low when it comes to finding romance. But if you’re lucky, one might just slip through the cracks into his own category. That guy might just become your boyfriend.

#3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree or message us at www.gtwy.ca/threelinesfree

Just saying cashew chicken and coconut rice
An eye for an eye just makes the whole world go blind
What IS your fascination with my forbidden closet of mystery !?
This Eric thing has become self-sustaining. I love it.
I feel so sick right now. Time to go home.
Present company. The best that you can find.
PUDDING!!!!
Losing sanity
Engulfed by my failing grades
This can't get worse...right?
Don't believe what we say. Er, they.
To the person in Riverside lounge who said that depression isn't a mental illness. Get fucked by a Portuguese Man O' War. Sincerely, the person fighting depression that sat 10 feet away from you.
I'm too old for this shit
I bombed both of my midterms.... BADLY. FML what is wrong with me!!!!
Yeah, you're 5'9...with heels maybe. YOU'RE DELUSIONAL GIRRRRLLLL Butts
Kalopsia
It's a pornography store. I was buying pornography.
White guilt black rage, new experimental hip hop duo. Check us out on myspace.
Holes..... they define who we are and where we are going :)
That's too deep for me, man.
Talking like a jerk, except you are an actual jerk and living proof that sometimes friends are mean balls

Met her on a Tuesday and her name was Fran. A doo run run run A doo run run.
Where are we going? Time just keeps getting faster but I feel like I'm stuck in place.
What the fuck, Dustin! First you unfriend me on FB, and now you're on the committee for this damn leadership college?!
Don't talk shit
to the boy in middle who always talks in soc 327, you're really super cute and intelligent. Thanks for being my eye candy
What happened, brah? Last week you were cold as ice
I need some Ideas really fast. Could somebody help me out here?
Missed Connection:
Genital piercings of note: fourchette, guiche, christina, hafada, ampalang.
I thought I told you to shave those sideburns!! You're through!!!
Don't whizz on the elec-tric-al fence!
Felladict Personbatch
Puke
Remember Cyclops's dad? The space douche?
The land of nightmares gone forever more.
Not sure if your S.O. will say yes to a ring? A week before you pop the question fart real loud during a kiss. Watch for their reaction.
I'll never be as handsome as him.
His chiseled features, amazing body, gorgeous face...he's perfect.
I'm ugly and no matter how hard I try I'll never be like him...I am genetic scum.

Who is John Galt?
Everyone here is smart, some are just smarter than others.....
Welcome to THE OTHERS
Eric forks his grapes in half before he eats them
This is the Evergreen Forest. Quiet, peaceful serene. That is, until Bert Raccoon wakes up!
I'm very proud to announce that I've just moved into the apartment where Wayne Gretzky stayed roughly for three years between Aug' 85 - Feb' 88. Any interested guests are most welcome for a tour and coffee -
Go fuck yourself
Whoever shot the cover photo of the purity test is one lucky dude!
Be my forever darling.
Would it be wrong to 3D print a dildo?
No
I guess that wasn't the last time I would wash the smell of your cologne from my hair.
"beta" as dog-whistle for "I'm an idiot, don't listen to me" or else "I speak Greek, fluently"
show me your t
Q is probably my favorite letter
Holy, Fuck House of Cards was off the hook.
Didn't do anything over reading week. I am so fucked
Things you can do to blow off steam that AREN'T doing drugs: argue with a door frame, go to the dentist, mad libs a poem, and always ALWAYS stay near school.
I had a really good Valentine's Day this year. Good food with a great person.

Children of Bosom bring their heaving passion and weighty power to the stage after 20 days on tour
I'm telling you right now. I AM gonna fuck this up.
Who would play you in a movie based on your life?
Good ol' fingerbanging at Squires.
My roommate scratched out all the chores on our To-Do list while drunk last night. She has written beneath them, poorly: ul[sic] later you little bitch.
I work out like 3 times a week NBD
Wanted: a ringer for k-days. My girlfriend wants prizes, I suck at games but have lots of disposable income. You and she will not speak together.
Win-ter time nearly spring--! Jack Frost still has his fin-ger in your bum--! Will he pull it out or go deeper--? Or-Curl-I-I-I-I-It--~!
Oh right, the taxes. The finger thing means the taxes.
I don't want to wake up anymore.
You're the difference between hell and home
Twitch Plays Pokemon was my reading week
A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kick-boxing.
Dear white males, thanks for sitting this round out. Sincerely, all the other groups who deserve their shot at sucking at student politics.
Does any one else love Margie Ray! Only reason I'm surviving math 113.
I'm beautiful in my way, 'cause God makes no mistakes, I'm on the right track baby I was BORN THIS WAYYYY
up

In honour of pride week, I'd like to thank all the people who helped me come out this year. I believe that people come into your life for a reason, and though its still a struggle, I think I'm finally comfortable with my sexuality <3
I'm flying hiiiggghhh de-FYYYYYYYYYINNNNNNGGGG GRAVITY!!!! omg I love Wicked so much
You and your people have till sundown to leave the prison.
I tried on a pair of heels today at value village. I got some pretty weird stares, and I'm not sure why. Is it because I'm a male? What does that mean? I'm just being me :)
If your a guy and you want to buy a dress, BUY IT. If you want to wear makeup, WEAR IT. Never settle for anything less than what you feel in your heart <3
What is the difference between crack and cocaine?
"I may not be a singer, or a damn seamstress, but I am a fierce queen"
-Alyssa Edwards
Watch nature videos - [YouTube] particularly Earth & Space as observed by NASA. You're in for a delight. Trust me, it IS better than porn ;) Enlightening, Entertaining & yet Humbling
The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF submission it deems racist sexist, libellous, homophobic or otherwise hateful in nature. Don't be hateful everyone. God knows there's too much of that going around these days. We all need to work together if we're going to make it through.



Jarron Mueller, current Bears volleyball captain, and Tegan McGraw, Bears alumnus

Ciera Heshka-Wolf, hammer/weight throw, Pandas track & field team

PRIDE OVER PREJUDICE

LGBTQ athletes at the U of A find support in varsity community

Written by **Alana Willerton**
Photos by **Kevin Schenk**

Deep down, Tegan McGraw always knew. The Kelowna, B.C. native had spent a lifetime hiding it — and doing so pretty well, he thought — when he finally came to terms with the truth: he was gay.

The acceptance came a year after McGraw left home to play volleyball at Lethbridge College, the experience of living on his own for the first time forcing him to really get to know himself. And so, after completing his first year of studies, he came out to his parents and friends, who proved to be extremely supportive.

But there was one more hurdle to go yet. For his second year, McGraw transferred to the University of Alberta and began playing for the Golden Bears volleyball team as a setter. He connected quickly with the rest of the team, and figured it was only a matter of time before they “put two and two together.”

But of course, he was worried: worried the team might react poorly, that they might start treating him differently or that they already knew.

As it turned out, some of his teammates had guessed it already, and as McGraw began sitting down with a few of them to talk about any questions they had and his experience with it, it became clear that this was a supportive, safe place to be.

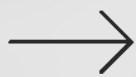
“Once they knew, I didn’t see any difference in how they treated (or) talked to me,” McGraw says. “You think you’re going to get treated differently and stuff because you don’t know how people are going to react. So yeah, I was surprised, but definitely glad.”

Jarron Mueller, one of the Bears volleyball captains and McGraw’s roommate when they travelled for games, was one of the first people on the team that McGraw talked to about coming out, and says the revelation didn’t change how he viewed their friendship.

“It wasn’t a big deal,” Mueller says. “It was just like, ‘Oh yeah, you’re gay and that’s cool.’ And he said like, ‘I want to make sure you don’t treat us any different,’ and we had no plans on doing that.”

While the situation was by no means easy — Mueller says he expected that some of their more conservative teammates might come to him and the other captains with concerns — in the end, no one appeared to have an issue with it. The team adopted a group mentality, Mueller says, wherein because most of the team was fully accepting of McGraw, “it didn’t leave any room for anyone else to even question it.” McGraw was their friend and their teammate, and that was more important to them than his sexual orientation.

“Just knowing Tegan and kind of what he’s gone through — obviously he’s had a positive experience, but obviously it’s not always smooth sailing — it’s really important to me to support a teammate and a friend through anything they had to go through,” Mueller says.



"If anyone else had any problems with their family, or not necessarily a gay issue, but if they were doing something else, I would do the same thing and support them as well. I'm always here to support Tegan and what he has to do and how really, (his sexual orientation) has nothing to do with the sport or what he does. So it's important for everyone to know that and treat him just like everyone else."

"It could've had a negative experience and I wouldn't have come back the following year probably, but I did, so it was good," McGraw adds.

The fact that his experience coming out to his teammates was so positive is something McGraw is extremely thankful for today. But while the Bears volleyball team's reaction is becoming more common in the sporting world, some LGBTQ athletes face a much different reality.

As the director of the U of A's Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services, Kristopher Wells is all too aware of the struggle some LGBTQ athletes face in the locker room and other sport environments, and it's a struggle the university has chosen to address with its latest partnership. Earlier this month, the U of A announced that iSMSS would be teaming up with the You Can Play Project, an initiative working to combat homophobia in sports. The two organizations will form a symbiotic relationship of sorts, with iSMSS contributing their expertise on research to You Can Play's connections within the worlds of amateur and professional sports.

Wells says their involvement in the partnership will mean helping You Can Play develop policy for sports leagues on a professional and amateur level, working with You Can Play on their professional development and training programs, and evaluating the success of the programs in terms of their ability to raise awareness and provoke attitudinal change. The partnership also comes with the announcement of a new post-doctoral fellowship at the U of A — a position Wells calls "one of the most unique post-docs in the world."

"Our goal (at iSMSS) is always to take the research out into communities so that it can be meaningful, it can be engaged and hopefully it can be transformative," Wells explains. "I really believe that that's the power of the university, and I believe that we as faculty members and students and staff at the University of Alberta, we have an obligation to take the tremendous privilege that we have and the knowledge that we build, and share it beyond the borders of our institution."

Wells anticipates that this new partnership will ultimately foster a locker room attitude much like the one McGraw experienced, and for athletes ranging from the junior high level to the professional level. He hopes the U of A's athletic teams will eventually join the project formally and take the team pledge to share the message that "if you can play, you can play."

Although he can't speak for the experiences of LGBTQ athletes at the U of A, Wells points to iSMSS' recently published Safe Spaces Campus Climate Report, which examined how sexual and gender minorities at the university felt about their environment, as an indication of their current situation. The survey findings reported that "campus recreation and campus sports teams appear to be supportive," and that, "A few students did share comments suggesting discomfort due to their sexual orientation, but this did not appear to be a common issue among survey participants."

Wells notes in particular that almost 17 per cent of surveyed students identified themselves as a sexual or gender minority, several of whom do play for a U of A sports team.

"What students told us is they felt relatively safe on campus, but they didn't necessarily feel that there was an institutional support or recognition for their identities," Wells says. "And that was one of the big reasons why we started Pride Week, was to create a focal point, to host events and engage the campus community in conversation."

This year's Pride Week, taking place from Feb. 26 to March 8, features some additional sports-related events

this time, such as a panel discussion titled "LGBTQ sports and athletics in a post-Sochi world" on opening night. If all goes according to plan, Friday will hopefully see several U of A athletes don their varsity gear to walk in the Pride Parade — a demonstration of solidarity with LGBTQ athletes on U of A teams.

Ciera Heshka-Wolf will be one of those athletes. The fifth-year Faculty of Phys. Ed & Rec student has been a member of the U of A's track and field team for five years now, and is the President of the University Athletics Board, a student group for athletes at the U of A.

Heshka-Wolf's experience as a gay athlete has been similar to McGraw's in that it's been largely positive. She's been training with the track and field team since she was in Grade 12, which is around the time she realized that she was a lesbian. As the President of the University Athletics Board, which organizes events and community service opportunities for U of A athletes to participate in, she uses her familiarity with organizations like iSMSS and initiatives similar to the You Can Play Project, to get the board behind various campaigns that support gay athletes. The U of A's Pride Week is one of these, and she's been encouraging U of A athletes to go and show their support by walking in the parade.

"Even if it's a small 10, 15 people group, I think just having a presence there that we haven't had in the past will be a good start," she says.

"I know even within our athletics office within the staff and stuff, they're very accepting and very supportive. They wanted us as athletics to have a good relationship with the people who run Pride and make sure that's not a stereotype

Having experienced this first hand, both McGraw and Mueller agree that their relationship changed for the better after McGraw came out, since he was now able to be himself completely.

"Your relationships just get closer. Like we'll have better conversations, (because) I'm not hiding who I am," McGraw says. "We definitely got closer through that and even (with) other guys on the team."

While extreme homophobia is still a problem within some locker rooms, Wells says one of the biggest challenges is the use of casual homophobia through sayings such as, "that's so gay." McGraw's no stranger to hearing the phrase, but acknowledges how the rest of the Bears volleyball team started making a conscious effort to change after he came out to them.

"(In terms of the) comment 'that's so gay' and stuff like that, after I came out, even just talk in the locker room, that totally changed. People would catch themselves, like if they were about to say it they would just stop themselves and apologize. And I'd be like, 'It's okay I'm used to it,' like I don't let it bother me," McGraw recalls.

"But they definitely changed the way they talked, but for the better. It wasn't to be like, 'Oh, I'm (not) going to insult Tegan,' it was like, 'Oh, that's actually not right.'"

This shift in the locker room consciousness has also had a particularly significant impact on Mueller. For him, the experience of having a gay teammate has gone beyond simply accepting someone with a different sexual orientation than himself. He's adamant that it's also had a reciprocal effect on him and the young players coming onto the team later as well.

"There was a lot of little lessons that were so important for me as a person to learn that wouldn't have happened if I wasn't friends with Tegan," Mueller says. "A lot of the guys would say stuff not thinking, and they don't mean anything by it because that's just how they grew up. But now that we had someone to kind of portray what the gay community was, then we knew exactly what to do, what to say what was derogatory, what wasn't. It just kind of opened our eyes; it basically made us better people just knowing exactly what was going on."

McGraw's situation coming onto the team is even more interesting when you consider how he was the only gay athlete on the team, and as far as he and Mueller know, one of the first to play volleyball for the Bears. McGraw's too modest to say it, but in Mueller's eyes, his teammate has broken the ice for future LGBTQ volleyball players who might have anxieties of their own about joining the team.

"The other sports have all had a few (gay athletes) and they all have their own little community on their team, and I think that would probably help a lot. So Tegan's pretty modest, but being the only one on an entire team that could have the stereotypes or things like that (is a big deal)," Mueller says.

"We all transitioned through it really easily, but that's a lot because of Tegan and how well he handled it and how approachable he was about it. He wasn't defensive about it or anything like that. I think it's really important for any other volleyball gay athletes; they can definitely look up to Tegan and how he handled the whole situation."

When McGraw looks back on his time at the U of A, his experience as a Bear is one of the things he'll remember most fondly. Having since left the team to focus on school, he still attends every game he can, cheering on the guys who made it possible for him to not only play volleyball, but to do so as an openly gay athlete.

"Being an athlete at the U of A definitely made my time here a lot better," McGraw says. "The first year not playing for me being this year, it's tough to handle. Like I'm not sure how to go about it."

"But being an athlete here was great, and even coming out too, it just kind of taught me to not hide who I was, especially around teammates and people that I'm close with. To know that even though I'm thinking that they might be thinking negative thoughts, that it's really not the case and even if they were, to just be myself and not care about what anyone else thinks."

"It's not easy at first, but your team's a team, and they'll support you regardless of your choices."

I think the best way to reduce discrimination is by simply getting to know someone who comes from the LGBTQ community. Then they're no longer that stereotype; they're actually your teammate. They're your family member, your co-worker.

Kristopher Wells
Director, U of A's Institute for Sexual
Minority Studies and Services

A lot of the guys would say stuff not thinking, and they don't mean anything by it because that's just how they grew up. But now that we had someone to kind of portray what the gay community was ... it just kind of opened our eyes.

Jarron Mueller
Captain, Bears volleyball team

(we portray): that athletics is pro-straight, homophobic; they don't want to portray that at all. They want people to know that we are very supportive here."

This isn't a difficult message for Heshka-Wolf to convey given that she's experienced it herself. When she came to the U of A five years ago, she was a bit apprehensive of how being gay would effect her sports experience, but the presence of LGBTQ role models in the U of A's sports community quickly erased those worries. When she first joined the track and field team, the team coach was Georgette Reed, an Olympic athlete who is openly gay. The former President of the UAB, which Heshka-Wolf is now at the helm of, was also gay.

Having two people from the LGBTQ community in positions of power within the U of A athletic community was extremely encouraging to Heshka-Wolf, who says their presence also taught straight athletes around them about respecting those who identify as LGBTQ. According to Wells, having openly gay athletes and coaches as role models is an important part of starting some much-needed conversations around attitudes towards gay athletes.

"I think the best way to reduce discrimination is by simply getting to know someone who comes from the LGBTQ community. Then they're no longer that stereotype; they're actually your teammate. They're your family member, your co-worker," Wells explains.

"So I think a real power in all this work is simply having the ability to honestly and openly share stories, and when you're in an environment that's safe to allow yourself to be vulnerable, you allow other people to respond vulnerably, and you have a lot of the traditional barriers in sports start to break down."

Arts & Culture

A & C Editor
Paige Gorsak

Phone
780.492.6661

Email
entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca

Twitter
@paigegorsak

Volunteer
A & C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m.
in 3-0 4, SUB. C'mon by!

social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Jennifer Robinson**

Pink T-Shirt Day

Wednesday, Feb. 26
University of Alberta campus

Pink is a colour that's long been associated with princesses and breast cancer, but this week, tossing on your rose, coral, salmon or magenta threads will mean you're showing support for the LGBTQ community. Pink T-Shirt Day is celebrated around the world to unite people against homophobia and discrimination, and the U of A is a proud participant. Stop by the Telus Building at 12 p.m. in your pink shirts for a group photo.

8: A Staged Reading

Presented by iSMSS
Written by Dustin Lance Black
Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m.
U of A Fine Arts Building 2-43
Free, tickets can be reserved by emailing
estaubin@ualberta.ca

The Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services is hosting a reading of *8*, a 2011 play created by the American Foundation for Equal Rights and Broadway Impact. The production centres on the fight for marriage equality in the United States, following Perry v. Schwarzenegger and the overturning of Prop 8 — the infamous amendment opposing same sex marriage. It's now used as a teaching technique in the fight for equal marriage rights.

The Coming Out Monologues

Friday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 1 at 2:30 p.m.
Dewey's
Tickets \$10 at tixonthesquare.ca

Coming out often seems like the biggest obstacle a member of the LGBTQ community will face, but it's actually just the first step in their journey. *The Coming Out Monologues* is presented in conjunction with iSMSS and local theatre director and producer Lindsay Ruth Hunt. Now in its third year, the show has changed and evolved to go beyond the performer's coming out to what comes after.

The Fabulous Night at FAB!

Saturday, March 1 at 7 p.m.
FAB Gallery (112 Street and 88 Avenue)
Free, register by Feb. 27 at alumni.ualberta.ca/Pride

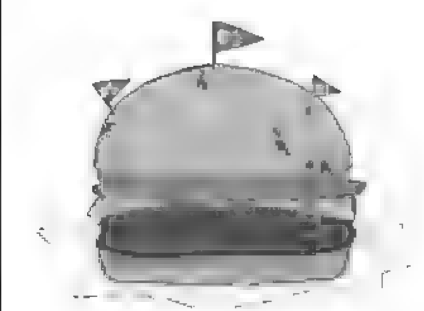
If you're looking for a chance to dress up, mingle with other LGBTQ youths or just show your support, look no further than The Fabulous Night at FAB! Presented by the Pride Alumni Chapter, the event celebrates the U of A's Pride Week and the LGBTQ community with music, food and a cash bar. Meet members of the Pride Alumni Chapter and learn about the chapter's work and initiatives.

Traveling Tickle Trunk Workshop

Tuesday, March 4 at 5 p.m.
Fourth Floor Education North Student Lounge
Free

Have you been looking to spice up your sex life? Ever wanted to learn more about dildos or bondage? Voted Edmonton's Favourite Sex Toy Shop three years running, the Travelling Tickle Trunk is a sex-positive sex shop that can hook you up. In honour of Pride Week, the shop's owner will be giving a presentation on the sex toys they carry and safer sex practices.

Between the Buns: The Next Act takes local burger craft to the next level



Burger Boys
GROUP COMMENTARY

Celebrating the wild success, newfound popularity and millions of dollars bestowed on them for analyzing Edmonton's burger scene in the first two editions of *Between the Buns*, *The Gateway's* intrepid travellers heard whispers of the best burger in town lying in wait just off Whyte Ave. Our faithful reviewers couldn't pass up the opportunity to investigate, and took a visit to the *The Next Act*.

Adrian Lahola-Chomiak

The *Next Act* Pub has long been a favourite watering hole of mine. Located near the heart of Whyte Ave., I've found it's a convenient location for university students to drink away their exam woes. The beer selection is excellent, and in general, the food is head and shoulders above most bars in Edmonton. That being said, when it comes to the best burger in the city, the competition is hot, and I didn't know if *The Next Act* could stand up.

I ordered the *Class Act* burger with a side of french fries and a pint of Red Racer IPA. A classic beef patty served with an over easy egg, cheese and bacon on top was soon calling my name. I've always been a fan of eggs on burgers and the *Class Act* was no exception. The rich yolk broke over the salty bacon, cheddar and perfectly cooked beef, making for a rich and flavourful sandwich. The unexpected star of the show, however, was the bun. It was durable enough to stay together, but also had a subtly sweet flavour that really complemented the burger.

The *Class Act* is a burger that works on every level. Sure, the patty is delicious, but so are the toppings and even the bun it's served on. It's certainly my favourite burger so far, and on top of that, it's the most reasonably priced. The *Next Act* is the first place we've reviewed where I think students will get serious value for their money. I was looking forward to eating at *The Next Act* and my experience with *The Class Act* reminded me why.

Andrew Jeffrey

The *Next Act* provided a different setting than usual for our burger reviews, as it's the first place we've visited that doesn't sell itself solely on the strength of its burgers. But word around town is that the few selections that are available at *The Next Act* are some of the best to be found in Edmonton.

The first thing we noticed upon arriving was that, naturally, the selection doesn't hold up against the burgers we tried at *The Burg* or *Delux*. There's more of a balanced menu here, but that only gives patrons more reason to come back and try other options. While the place is often so busy that it can be difficult to find a table, that popularity is deserved thanks to its boisterous, friendly atmosphere and decently sized variety of beer.

Variety can also still be found in the *Cameo Burger*. A rotating item on the menu, the week that I ordered it, the *Cameo* consisted of a simple bacon and cheeseburger, but one that was made with a local, organic beef patty. The result was a delicious, juicy patty that was complemented well by the bare necessities of any burger (lettuce, tomato, cheese, bacon).

The price is affordable, the burger is great, the variety of beer is strong and the location is easily accessible for any student, just off Whyte Ave. All in all, this makes *The Next Act* one of



ANDREW JEFFREY

the most ideal spots in town for a U of A student to find one of the city's best burgers.

Darcy Ropchan

It's been said that everyone is a critic — that's why I decided to embrace my inner pundit and go with aptly titled *The Critic* for my first time at *The Next Act*.

Despite its name, the burger leaves little to complain about. It comes with exuberant helpings of tantalizing caramelized onions, crispy bacon, smoked cheddar topped off with a generous slathering of barbecue sauce that really ties the entire burger together. It's actually a task to simply fit the entire burger in your mouth, and you can definitely expect to leave a sizeable mess on your plate after conquering this delicious burger.

For the modest price of \$14, *The Critic* is served along side a heaping pile of *The Next Act's* wonderful house cut fries — the perfect companion to this stacked burger.

The excellent burger, tasty fries and friendly and efficient service make *The Next Act* a must-try for any burger buff.

Brad Kennedy

Compared to other dining establishments we've reviewed, *The Next Act* was packed pretty full just after lunch on a Saturday. Customer traffic moved steadily, though, and we weren't waiting long — neither to be seated

or for our food, which arrived in an incredibly quick period of time.

I ordered the *Drama Queen* veggie burger with fries, a pint of St. Ambrose Oatmeal Stout and a half order of their Baked Mac 'n' Cheese with jalapenos. The *Drama Queen* was a simple burger, composed of a deliciously succulent veggie patty served with avocado, pea shoots and cheddar cheese, but it didn't require any fancy extra ingredients to make it one of the best veggie burgers I've had in a long time. The bun itself was so soft and buttery it practically melted in my mouth, and it brought the burger together in a perfect blend of juicy, delicate flavours that practically guarantee I'll be back there for lunch again soon.

The fries were delicious, crisp and flavourful without being greasy, and the Baked Mac 'n' Cheese was cooked to perfection, with the noodles and jalapenos coming together in a delectable thick, cheesy sauce that made me regret splitting the order with one of the other diners at our table.

With its convenient location just off Whyte Ave. in the middle of Old Strathcona, *The Next Act* is a solid choice for anyone looking for a great place to eat near campus. Their service is stellar, and their food is even better.

Between the Buns is a spring 2014 feature following the escapades of three, and sometimes four, burger lovers as they seek out the best in town.

Illustration: Jessica Hong

Celebrating the storied, 60-year career of composer John Williams



Michael Vecchio
A&C STAFF

With the 86th annual Academy Awards taking place this Sunday, March 2, you'll probably see a slew of your favourite stars be rightfully acknowledged for their work in film. But of all those in attendance, there's one man in particular who holds the best distinction of all with the most Oscar nominations. Williams is second only to Walt Disney for most nominations held by a single person. He's nominated for the 49th time this year, reminding the world of his consistency in providing audiences with some of the most exhilarating, dramatic, rousing and emotional works of film music. His 60-year musical career has produced such iconic scores as *Star Wars* and *Jurassic Park*, and in the words of Steven Spielberg, Williams has "provided the soundtracks to our lives. This shy, modest man has taken us to the moon and to every place where the heart can reach and the notes can speak."

And yet, it's surprising that with 49 nominations, he's only won the Oscar for Best Original Score five times for *Fiddler on the Roof* in 1971, *Jaws* in 1975, *Star Wars* in 1977, *E.T.* in 1982 and *Schindler's List* in 1993. As we look forward to hopefully another Williams win for *The Book Thief*, here are the top five scores by the symphonic master that were nominated, but didn't win the elusive Oscar.

Superman (1978)

Whether you're a fan of *Superman* or not, nearly everyone recognizes the iconic "Superman Theme," and it's hard to deny that it's anything short of super — no pun intended. With a memorable trumpet fanfare as an introduction and masterful use of stringed instruments to create the image of flying, the main theme to this film is undoubtedly one of the most popular pieces of film music. The rest of the score, which features the same elements as the main theme and then some, is a rousing and melodic listen for anyone, even Lex Luthor.

The Empire Strikes Back (1980)

While Williams' score for the first *Star Wars* won him the Oscar, it was his music for the much-anticipated sequel that produced some of the most memorable themes associated with *Star Wars*. But surprisingly, it didn't win the award. Ask any seven-year-old or 27-year-old, and they'll most likely be able to hum "The Imperial March," which is arguably the most famous piece from the series apart from the main theme. With this

ominous but wonderful theme, the Empire suddenly became cool. Other notable compositions include "Yoda's Theme" and "Han Solo and The Princess," a stirring love theme. The music of the *Empire Strikes Back* is among the richest and most beautiful of the entire *Star Wars* saga and certainly worthy of that golden statuette.

Home Alone (1990)

Many may question why a great composer like Williams would score a

children's movie like *Home Alone*, but we should all be thankful that he did. As much as seeing two burglars being comically assaulted by an eight-year-old is entertaining, *Home Alone* wouldn't be the same if it weren't for its unforgettable music. Indeed, Williams received two Oscar nominations for his work on this film, one for score and one for Best Original Song for "Somewhere in My Memory," which has become as well known as some Christmas carols. Masterfully using the full range of the orchestra, the score to the movie is both light and comic, but also dramatic and lively. The track "Setting the Trap" is a great example of Williams' talent for melody and orchestration, and who doesn't want to booby trap their own house after hearing music like that?

The Adventures of Tintin (2011)

Based on the comics of the same name, the film follows the adventures and misadventures of young journalist Tintin and the numerous colourful characters he encounters along the way — the kind of film that beckons Williams. The grand use of the orchestra and brisk pace of the music bring you right into the adventure, while still moving you with distinct melodies. The opening theme is also quite distinctive for its use of various jazz styles particularly from the '30s, which further shows how versatile Williams is. The score for *Tintin* is typical big, bold Williams, but despite being an old friend, it's still able to excite us and conjure up images without even having to see the movie.

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (2001)

To say that Williams' score to *Harry Potter* is magical is an understatement. Just like *Superman*, the music is so well known and celebrated that even those who haven't fallen under the spell of JK Rowling will know this score. All you need to do is hum the first eight-note bar, and everyone — even muggles — will recognize it. The iconic "Hedwig's Theme" encapsulates the brilliance of Williams at his finest, as the opening motif, played famously on the celesta, invites us into this world of wizardry before growing to use the full scope of the orchestra in the most magnificent way. And to think, the inspiration for this piece was a snowy owl. With the aid of Williams, listeners are transported to Diagon Alley, the enchanted halls of Hogwarts, the Quidditch playing field and the marvellous Hogwarts Express. In a series that relies heavily on imagery, the score would naturally be required to convey these images, and Williams not only did that, but he also created a world of his own. Listening to the music of *Harry Potter*, it's clear that this isn't just a film score, it's an orchestral wonder, and the genius of its composer has never been so clear.

5 Best is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway arts and culture aficionados recommend the best-of-the-best in a topic of their choice: food, film, art or culture.

fashion streeters

COMPILED & PHOTOGRAPHED BY Christina Varvis

Song Li
BUSINESS IV



GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.

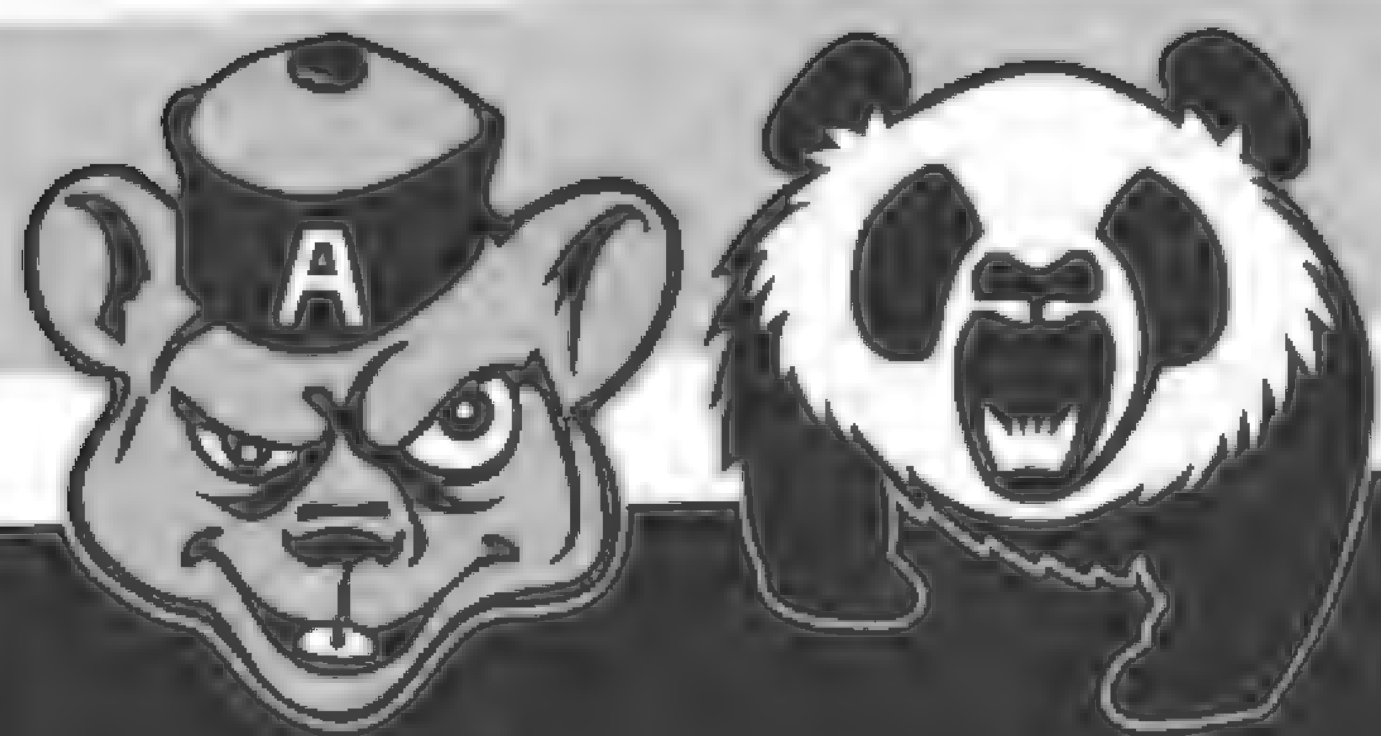
SONG: I'm wearing a long winter jacket with a very chunky scarf, black leggings and black ankle boots.

GATEWAY: Where do you look for fashion inspiration?

SONG: I personally like Korean fashion. I'll shop at two stores on Whyte Ave. — Loft 82, (which is) now called Noul, and Oak & Fort, because they bring (a lot of) their clothes from Korea ... I like the street style, like more casual and cool. I especially like the letter jackets with the boots.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.



Golden Bears & Pandas Athletics

UPCOMING HOME PLAYOFF GAMES

Golden Bears Basketball

Canada West Conference FINAL FOUR

Friday, February 28 - 8:00pm

vs Saskatchewan

Saturday, March 1 - 7:00pm

vs TBD (Gold/Bronze)

Played at the Saville Community Sports Centre

Pandas Basketball

Canada West Conference Quarterfinal - Best of 3 series

vs Thompson Rivers University Wolfpack

Game 1 - Friday, February 28 - 6:00pm

Game 2 - Saturday, March 1 - 5:00pm

Game 3 - Sunday, March 2 - 5:00pm

*if necessary

Played at the Saville Community Sports Centre

Golden Bears Hockey

Canada West Conference Semifinal - Best of 3 series

vs UBC Thunderbirds

Game 1 - Friday, February 28 - 7:00pm

Game 2 - Saturday, March 1 - 6:00pm

Game 3 - Sunday, March 2 - 6:00pm

*if necessary

Played at Clare Drake Arena



Tickets to all Golden Bears and Pandas games can be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.ca, through our Activity Registration Zone in the Van Vliet Centre, or on game day at the ticket booth.

Dickensian song and dance in *A Tale of Two Cities*

THEATRE PREVIEW

A Tale of Two Cities, The Musical

BOOK AND MUSIC BY > Jill Santoriello

DIRECTED BY > Timothy J. Anderson

STARRING James Toupin, Justin Kautz, Gary Carter, Elizabeth Marsh, Todd Hauck, Molly Danko and others

WHEN Runs Thursday, Feb. 27
Saturday, March 1 and
Tuesday, March 4 – Saturday,
March 8 at 7:30 p.m.; 2 p.m.
matinée on March 2

WHERE Festival Place (100 Festival
Way, Sherwood Park)

HOW MUCH > \$22.50 \$27.50 at
ticketmaster.ca or at the
Festival Place Box Office
by phone (780-449-3378)



SUPPLIED: KARA LITTLE

Shannon Kovalsky

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @SKOVVY

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

So goes the famous opening lines from Charles Dickens' 1859 novel *A Tale of Two Cities* — but you can expect the former with ELOPE Musical Theatre and Sherard Musical Theatre's co-production of the musical stage adaptation.

The Dickens' classic tells a story of personal growth, unrequited love and social justice set against the unrest of the French Revolution. The historical fiction centres on a variety of protagonists as it preludes the political turmoil in both Paris and

London. Although the co-production is a musical that was adapted from a source novel, assistant director Trish van Doornum is sure that fans will recognize the classic tale.

"The production is a musical and it is fairly faithful to the story in the book," van Doornum explains. "But what (playwright Jill Santoriello) has done is follow two or three of the stories in the book and boiled it down to two or three essential sets of relationships."

The personal journey of the main character, Sydney Carton, as well as the growing revolutionary passion of the downtrodden, are both aspects van Doornum sees as

indicative of the production's underlying theme.

"(It's the) idea of becoming a better person — becoming a person you didn't think you could be," she says. "Whether it's fighting a big fight or fighting a small fight, as long as you're taking action, you're working towards change."

Since its Broadway premiere in 2008, Santoriello's version has been produced in Korea, Japan, Germany, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the United States and Canada. Now, the show is experiencing its Western Canadian premiere, having only first been played in Ontario last summer. According to van Doornum, it's a

fact that drew ELOPE to this particular adaptation.

"It's a big opportunity to bring a show that's never been seen here before to the Edmonton area. To be able to do something that's new and hasn't been done before — it's exciting to bring something different to the audience," she says.

Not only is the production a new experience for Edmontonians that likely didn't catch its Ontario run, but van Doornum adds that this staging is in a different vein than often-performed traditional theatrical period pieces — something fans of the classic novel and the unfamiliar can both appreciate.

According to van Doornum, their production takes a more conceptual approach the story to focus the spotlight on the talented performers involved. Instead of massive sets, time and effort was focused on acting and character development, and while many audience members might have expectations with the story being a period piece, van Doornum believes the production's staging will bring the audience into the creative process.

"We're trying to get the audience to picture it for themselves and we're focusing a lot on the relationships of the people and not on the background experience," she says. "The audience is a part of the process as much as we are."

This engaging adaptation of Dickens' novel is not only a refreshingly conceptual take on a treasured classic, but a reminder to contemporary audiences of the relevance this story still has today. For van Doornum, you only have to look as far as the Occupy Movement or the riots in the Ukraine to find Dickensian dissent against the class system. And while the events of the plot are intense, the theme that remains when the stage lights go down is one of hope.

"Those people are rebelling and they are fighting for what they need. They're not getting what they need and they are trying to take action and make revolution for themselves ... it's true in Dickens' time and it's the same now," she says, concluding on a positive note. "That's something we hope (audiences) can take away: you can always become a better person and you can always fight for what you need to make a change."



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THE CITY OF
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Brent Butt brings his prairies comedy to Edmonton

COMEDY PREVIEW

Brent Butt – Almost a Movie Star Tour

WHEN > Saturday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.
WHERE > Winspear Centre (4 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
HOW MUCH > \$34.50 \$41.50 at winspearcentre.ca or the Winspear Box Office

Michael Vecchio

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Canada is one of the greatest producers of exceptional comedic talent, with names ranging from Jim Carrey to Mike Myers hailing from the Great White North. But although Brent Butt, the Saskatchewan-born comedian best known for his wildly popular prairies sitcom *Corner Gas*, may not have the same level of stardom as others, he certainly ranks among the best talent Canada has to offer.

For Butt, who was the creative force behind the six seasons of *Corner Gas*, his latest tour, *Almost a Movie Star*, isn't just about promoting his new film *No Clue*, but rather a continuation of his first love: stand-up comedy.

"I've always done stand-up. Whenever I was in the middle of production there were a few months where I couldn't do it, but as soon as production ended I was booking shows," he says. "There's never been

a time when I've been away from stand-up and I hope there never is in my life."

In fact, his later successes were merely things he dreamed about — his main ambition was always to be in front of the microphone.

"(TV and film) weren't things I was actively pursuing. To me, stand up was the thing I knew I needed to do and everything else was stuff I wanted to do. Of all the things I've done, stand-up is the one I could never walk away from."

Butt's comedic career far preceded his on-screen work, starting at open mics in the late '80s and early '90s. His brand of comedy isn't focused on a specific topic or issue, instead talking about keeping his eyes and ears open in everyday situations to find odd or peculiar situations that he can work into jokes. Some might call his comedy Canadian in nature, but Butt isn't so sure.

"Canadian humour is everyone's humour. I don't think you can pinpoint a certain style to comedy, it's universal," he says. "(Though) I couldn't talk about *Mr. Dressup* in Singapore, that's for sure."

For a man who's found fame across both Canada and the world — *Corner Gas* is shown in 26 countries and his own stand up takes him internationally — Butt expresses little sense of hubris. Even when speaking of *Corner Gas*'s impressive success, there's a humble reservation to praise his own work.

"We just made a show that we thought was funny, not targeted at any specific group, and as a result

people aged 10 to 90 watched it," he says. "I just kind of assumed that not many people would watch, we'll probably only do one season and if we're lucky get a second."

Butt's small expectations were quickly disproven with the massive popularity that *Corner Gas* gained. From critical acclaim to a slew of awards that includes six Gemini Awards and a nomination for an International Emmy in its first season, the show wildly surpassed what anyone thought a show about a gas station could accomplish. And much to the chagrin of national audiences, Butt chose to cap the show at six seasons, citing he never wanted it to outstay its welcome.

"I loved the show too much to let it wither and die; if you're a creative person, you need to create in order to be who you are. In order to be true to yourself, you need to create and you can't really create if you're going over the same material all the time, even if the material is great," Butt says.

With the idea of always moving forward in mind, his first feature film, *No Clue*, hits theatres March 7. Writing and starring as Leo Falloon, a salesman who inadvertently becomes a PI, Butt says he hopes to do more film — but also more of everything. While he's clearly a person with many projects, Butt maintains that all he's ever wanted to do is entertain. Whether he can do that through his first love of stand-up comedy or his TV and film efforts, that value for his audiences is all that matters.



SUPPLIED

Sex After Kids a complex narrative of love across generations

FILM REVIEW

Sex After Kids

WRITTEN BY Jeremy Lalonde
DIRECTED BY Jeremy Lalonde
STARRING > Jay Brazeau, Zoie Palmer, Ennis Esmer, Mimi Kuzyk, Kris Holden-Reid, Amanda Brugel, Peter Keleghan, Paul Amos, Mary Krohnert, Shannon Beckner and Kate Hewlett

WHEN > Now Playing
WHERE > Magic Lantern Princess Theatre (10337 82 Ave.)
HOW MUCH > \$8 for students; available at the door

Brad Kennedy

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @HELLA_BRAD

Sex is arguably one of our most basic needs as humans. Hormonally, we're driven to it; it feels good, it creates intimate bonds between people and typically leads to the procreation of new generations of humans. But what happens to sex once it's served its purpose? *Sex After Kids*, the newest romantic comedy from Canadian writer-director Jeremy Lalonde, explores the difficulties of maintaining intimacy in a relationship suddenly complicated by the logistics of having children.

The film follows the interweaving story lines of five different couples, all of whom are tangentially connected either by blood relations or by membership in a local "mom's group." Lou (Zoie Palmer) and Peyton (Paul Amos) are a frantically disorganized brother-sister duo both struggling to raise a child without a father and find Lou a boyfriend. Horton (Jay Brazeau) and Dolores (Mimi Kuzyk) are an elderly couple



SUPPLIED

attempting to rediscover their sexuality after years of platonic cohabitation, now that their children have all finally left home. Former celebrity starlet Vanessa (Amanda Brugel) tackles the reality of her new life as a stay-at-home mom while desperately trying to maintain her marriage with Sean (Peter Keleghan), who's no longer attracted to her. Ben (Ennis Esmer) and Jules (Shannon Beckner) are a couple trying

to find time to be together amidst the chaos of looking after a new baby, but their opposing schedules lead to a mounting sexual tension that could drive them apart. Larissa (Mary Krohnert) and Jody (Kate Hewlett) are two lesbian mothers attempting to navigate the complex world of parenthood as a gay couple, while Larissa's brother Gage (Kris Holden-Reid) battles serious commitment issues and the difficulties

of being a single dad.

As the movie unfolds, it playfully looks at what it's like to be a parent, both old and new, and how that fundamentally alters the nature of relationships in many different ways. Infidelity, loss of passion, feelings of neglect, abandonment, anxiety and loneliness are all addressed — but so are the myriad ways that love and sex can survive and grow past children in a healthy relationship,

ultimately bringing couples closer together and making them a part of something so much more than just two people in love. The film explores the trials of bringing a child into the world without sacrificing your own happiness in a clever, heartwarming and unpretentiously honest way that leaves something for almost any viewer to identify with and be entertained by. For instance, almost any couple can find laughter in the schadenfreude of Horton and Dolores' fumbling forays into sexual experimentation, and it's nice to see a movie that portrays romance after retirement as no different from any other period in a couple's life.

As the movie unfolds, it playfully looks at what it's like to be a parent, both old and new, and how that fundamentally alters the nature of relationships.

At just over 100 minutes long, it's impressive that *Sex After Kids* can fit so much powerful and complex material into such a tightly-packed film. The movie manages to explore almost every aspect of its subject matter in a way that never seems too awkward or distancing, with a cast of extremely likeable characters. University students looking for a good romantic comedy might not exactly be the target demographic for this movie, but that doesn't change the fact that it's an exceedingly funny and heart-warming film, and it deserves recognition for how thoughtfully it handles a subject that, in our society, is too often reduced to a cheap comedic trope.

Lightning Returns finally lives up to series' potential

GAME REVIEW

Lightning Returns: Final Fantasy XIII

PUBLISHER ▶ Square Enix
DEVELOPER ▶ Square Enix
PLATFORM ▶ PS3, Xbox 360

Ryan Bromsgrove
BUSINESS MANAGER ■ @RYAWESOME

Lightning Returns: Final Fantasy XIII is like getting a great dessert after a disappointing meal. In and of itself, it's actually pretty good, but you can't quite get rid of the taint of what came before it.

Its creators did the best anyone could have with the story after the inexplicable events of its predecessor, *Final Fantasy XIII-2*. Lightning, the protagonist of the original game, is back, 500 years after whatever transpired at the end of the last game — itself 500 years after the mostly understandable but ultimately mediocre events of the first. The premise here is that the end of the world is coming, and there's actually nothing you can do to stop it this time.

One of the baffling results of *XIII-2*'s disgusting story is that the cycle of death through old age and birth of new life has ceased. Most of the world has gone, leaving one island with the world's last people, now five centuries old. Lightning's task as God's servant is to save as many souls as she can to usher them into the new world God's building to replace the broken one he plans to destroy.



SUPPLIED

There are five main quests that revolve around saving characters from the previous games, who have all ended up in this time period due to one time travel shenanigan or another. All of them are moping about the same old shit they always have, which is a mark against the storytelling for sure. There's also an impressive number of side quests, and it's here where the world Square Enix built shines. They constructed a series of mini-stories that riff off the end of the world and no more aging themes in inventive ways.

Unlike most other RPGs, it's through completing these quests that Lightning gets direct stat increases. But that's only part of developing her. Lightning has access to a wide range of outfits, each coming with particular features. You also

equip a weapon, a shield, and one or two other times, as well as up to four abilities to round out what the game calls a schemata.

The first two games in this trilogy came with three characters in battle, and an abstracted combat system where the point was to switch between class combinations as you rode the tide of battle, largely letting the game auto-select individual attacks. Lightning's on her own now, and you press a button mapped to an ability in order to directly execute it.

You get three schemata to use in battle at a time, so the key to winning becomes setting up effective combinations and knowing when to switch. There are so many possibilities, you could spend hours just customizing and experimenting. A magic, strength and defence

combination will get you through most battles, but some monsters might go down faster against a debuffer and two physical attackers, or a specific attack unique to one outfit might be perfect at slaying something otherwise tough. This is Square Enix thoroughly returning to form.

On that note, they've finally created a compelling world. You get two large, richly detailed cities, and two open wilderness areas. The best thing about the cities is that it actually feels like people live in them. The previous two games' cities were hopelessly overdesigned futuristic catwalks to nowhere. Now, finally, at the end of the world, there are buildings made of brick and stone. Stores where residents sell their goods. People you can interact with

meaningfully. While the world design makes the game feel a bit out of place with the previous two, the design is so much better that I don't even care.

Luxerion is overseen by a religious order, and has a level of gloom appropriate to the setting. In contrast, Yusnaan's citizens are spending their last days partying. The city's atmosphere goes from a lazy morning to raucous revelry, and finally that calm-after-the-storm atmosphere familiar to anyone who's walked through a bar district a couple of hours after last call.

Things change depending on the time of the in-game day, and that brings me to what will probably be the most contentious aspect: you've got a time limit. You start with six days before the world ends, and can extend it by completing quests quickly, but there's an upper limit. You might be worried for a while, but the limit is generous enough that most players should make it on their first attempt, and get right into the New Game+ option, where you can keep your stuff, tear through the main quests, and then have ample time left to mop up the smaller ones.

This is likely the last we're getting of the *Final Fantasy XIII* world in the near future. If you haven't played the other two installments, know that it's a decent game flawed by its association with the first two. If you've slogged through the others, this is a long-delayed realization of at least some of the potential the world had. It's sad that so much was squandered before we got here. It almost feels like an apology — but it's well-taken, and does bode well for Square Enix's flagship series regaining its lustre going forward.



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2014-2015 General Faculties Council Standing Committees STUDENT MEMBERS NEEDED!

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Student Committee Application Deadline is Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 4:30 P.M.

The terms of office for students serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) Standing Committees, Appeal Boards, and committees to which GFC elects members will expire on April 30, 2014. The GFC Nominating Committee encourages undergraduate and graduate students to apply now to serve on any of the following committees. Student members currently serving a first, one-year term of office are eligible to stand for a second, one-year term of office.

For details on the GFC standing committees 2014-2015 vacancies, terms of reference, memberships and schedules, please go to the University Governance website at www.governance.ualberta.ca

- **ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC):** GFC's senior committee dealing with academic, financial, and planning issues.
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- **COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS (COSA):** The aim of the Council is the betterment of the quality of student life at the University of Alberta. Students **MUST** be active members of the General Faculties Council (GFC) at time of election.

CONTACT: Ann Hodgson, Coordinator, GFC Nominating Committee (NC), at 780-492-1938, or by e-mail: ann.hodgson@ualberta.ca. Interested applicants may drop by University Governance located in Room 3-04 South Academic Building (SAB) to speak to a GFC Committee Coordinator in person.

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SUPPLIED

House of Cards second season fails to deliver excitement of first

TV REVIEW

House of Cards

WRITTEN BY ▶ Beau Willimon, Bill Cain, Laura Eason, John Mankiewicz and others

DIRECTED BY ▶ Carl Franklin, James Foley, John Coles, Robin Wright and Jodie Foster

STARRING ▶ Kevin Spacey, Robin Wright, Rachel Brosnahan, Michael Kelly, Molly Parker, Michael Gill, Gerald McRaney and others

WHEN ▶ Now streaming on Netflix

Paige Gorsak

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • @PAIGEGORSK

Satisfying everyone's power-hungry inner villain, season one of the Netflix-created *House of Cards* was some of 2013's best TV. Its high production value and powerful cast made politics sexy, getting audiences everywhere to root for an evil, anti-heroic couple gunning for power. With both Golden Globe and Emmy wins, its strengths far outweighed its flaws.

But the series' second season, beleaguered by boring villains, a thrifty use of key characters and far too many soliloquies to the audience by Frank Underwood (Kevin Spacey), is not up to snuff.

Aired on Netflix in its entirety on Feb. 14, the show maintains its twisty, evil nature and glossy viewing experience, with the ambitious exploits of House Majority Whip Frank

Underwood and his wife Claire driving the story forward, the former now in position as Vice President. But while you root for the couple to succeed in their evil deeds, it's the side characters with liberal moralities and honest motivations that keep the hyperbolic plot in balance.

In season one, friendly faces such as reporter Zoe Barnes (Kate Mara), troubled senator Peter Russo (Corey Stoll) and artist Adam Galloway (Ben Daniels) ate up both screen time and plot lines opposite the devilish duo, bringing heart to the show and placing exciting obstacles on the Underwoods' paths.

But in season two, the genuinely interesting characters and plot arcs are left out of focus — or out of the frame entirely. Their battles against the couple are lost too quickly, with some snuffed out in mere moments and others written as too stupid to piece together the danger the Underwoods present before they attack. Of note, the distraught *Washington Herald* editor Lucas Goodwin (Sebastian Arcelus) and mysterious hacker Gavin Orsay (Jimmi Simpson) fill the gap left by Barnes' departure from the show. Rachel Posner, the former sex worker held captive after her involvement in Russo's downfall, stands as a reminder of the first season's path of destruction. She leads this season as a side-plot heroine, challenging the power of creepy Doug Stamper (Michael Kelly) and keeping us interested when the writing gets trite. And yet, these three, and every other character of interest — from Edward Meechum to Jackie Sharpe to Remy

Danton — are taken down like pawns on a chessboard by the Underwoods' ever-growing spawn.

Full focus is instead placed on boring villains and uninteresting scandals such as businessman Raymond Tusk, Chinese billionaire Xander Feng and a dopey president. As the causalities and collateral damage build, the Underwoods' once exciting and immoral triumphs seem gross and uninteresting. A sense of apathy and exhaustion grows as we watch Claire walk all over her former lover, a sexual assault victim and the First Lady, and see Frank throw Freddie and his rib shop out to the dogs. When the couple does overcome their larger obstacles, it's too late for us to care.

Where the show does impress is in its more scandalous political content — by which I don't mean the republican-democrat debates in house, but the important plot arc about sexual assault. Even if it's in fiction, discussions about rape and sexual harassment being brought into the senate and the Oval Office are a big deal. The creators' choice to openly discuss the experiences of survivors, the public response and the critical dialogue around the issue was impressive.

Ultimately, while this review seems overwhelmingly negative, it's only because the first season of *House of Cards* established such a high expectation for powerful acting and exciting — if unrealistic — plot lines. The second season is still watchable and will certainly keep you engrossed. But the poorly written storyline and vapid writing tear down the subtle balance the first season built up.

ALBUM REVIEW



Beck Morning Phase

Capitol Records
beck.com

Andrew Jeffrey

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

More than a decade ago, one of Beck's most introspective records, 2002's *Sea Change*, came as a surprising change of pace for the '90s alternative star. It eventually became one of his most critically acclaimed albums. So, naturally, expectations were high when he announced his 12th album *Morning Phase* would be a "companion piece" to that previous work.

While the connection between the two records is evident in the melancholic tone and folk and country inspirations, anyone expecting Beck

to release a pale imitation of one of his most popular albums shouldn't worry. What fans will instead find from *Morning Phase* is a more mature and overall stronger offering than the Beck of 12 years ago.

The newest album features some of the most beautiful melodies Beck has composed in his career. Lush arrangements of guitar, strings and piano play throughout its running time, most notably on standout tracks "Blue Moon" and "Blackbird Chain." And where *Sea Change*

tended to wallow in a clichéd sort of overwhelming gloom, this time around, Beck's confessional lyrics are tempered by a level of maturity that reflects the time that's passed since that companion piece and the strides he's made as a songwriter. When Beck does delve into lyrics that could be eye roll-inducing if sung by a lesser artist, like the repetition of the words "wave" and "isolation" for the entire last minute of "Wave," the composition of the music is consistently strong enough to hold the listener's attention.

It's been 20 years since "Loser" found an audience in the alternative-minded youth of the '90s, and the same artist on display throughout *Morning Phase* is nearly unrecognizable. He's just as enigmatic and creative in his releases, but his newest work is his most restrained, mature and possibly his most beautiful album yet.



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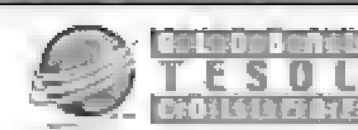
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RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE The Bears volleyball team will enter the CIS national championships this week in Calgary looking for a title as the number one seed. FILE PHOTO — AMANDA WANG

Volley Bears chase first CIS title in six years

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

CIS Men's Volleyball National Championships

Friday, Feb. 28 — Sunday, March 1
Calgary, Alta.
cis-sic.tv

Atta Almasi
SPORTS STAFF • @SCARBOROBLUFFER

It's been said that good things come to those who wait. For fifth-year Golden Bears volleyball setter Jarron Mueller and the rest of his senior teammates, clinching the program's first Canada West championship banner since the 2009-10 season was an accomplishment that saw the team finally climb over the hump of continually coming up short in conference tournaments throughout the past four years.

"It was a great feeling," Mueller said after the Bears pulled off a

three-set upset of the top-seeded Trinity Western University Spartans at the Langley Events Centre last Friday, a place the Spartans hadn't lost at all season prior to their match against the U of A.

"We just want to make sure that we work hard and leave nothing on the table because this is the be-all and end-all and we're really excited."

JARRON MUELLER
SETTER, BEARS VOLLEYBALL

"It was nice to finally have things go our way in important games like this. We've obviously had our fair share of being on the opposite side, so we kind of really appreciate what it takes to win and the feeling. But at the same time ... we know that the job's not done yet, so as fifth-years, we kind of understand and we're

not getting too excited about this because our ultimate goal is (nationals) this week."

For Mueller and the rest of his Golden Bears teammates, that ultimate goal may soon become a reality as the program chases its first national championship since 2009, heading down to Calgary next Wednesday to begin the hunt for the school's seventh title in men's volleyball.

"With how we've been practicing lately and just knowing that if we actually played to our full abilities we knew we were capable of (winning the CanWest title), it's just really nice and rewarding to see us actually come through and play the way we wanted to in a big game like that," Mueller said. "We're very confident going into nationals ... (and) I don't think we're too pressured about it. It's of part of playing for U of A, you're always targeted and looked as one of the best team so we're kind of used to having that role."

As they prepare to enter their 15th

straight CIS national championship tournament, Mueller and his teammates know that as the number one seed, they've got their work cut out for them as they head south along the QE2 to the Jack Simpson Gym at the University of Calgary.

And even though the team is taking no chances in terms of making sure they're prepared to win their first game — a fate that's plagued them over the past few seasons — Mueller admits that for himself as a Calgary native, winning that elusive national championship banner in front of friends and family would be the ultimate ending to their careers.

"We just want to make sure that we work hard and leave nothing else on the table, because this is end-all be-all and we're really excited to play in front of our families," Muller said. "And there's a lot of us from Calgary, (so) it'll basically be like a home game driving down from Edmonton. And with all (my) family being from Calgary already, it's a really good setup."

Home Scores

PANDAS HOCKEY



3 - 2
3 - 1
3 - 1

BEARS BASKETBALL



1 - 3
3 - 1
3 - 1

Check out The Gateway online at gtwy.ca throughout the week for national and conference championship recaps on Bears and Pandas swimming, wrestling and track and field, as well as the Pandas basketball preview.



NICK OF TIME Kostiuk helped break a Golden Bear record. SUPPLIED

Bears

Athlete of the Week
WRITTEN BY **Richard Liew**

NICK KOSTIUK — SWIMMING

In just his first season with the program, Bears rookie swimmer Nick Kostiuk earned two medals in the men's 100-metre breaststroke and men's 4x100-metre medley relay at nationals this past weekend. The Edmonton native also topped his personal best and the previous Golden Bears record of 1:00.91 in the 100-metre breaststroke with an outstanding time of 1:00:24. This was good enough for a silver medal at the CIS swimming championships, as he also helped the Bears eclipse the previous U of A record of 3:39.86 in the men's 4x100-metre medley with a CIS bronze medal performance.

Pandas

Athlete of the Week
WRITTEN BY **Katherine Hill**

KENDRA CHERNOFF — SWIMMING

After leading the Pandas swim team to a commendable third-place finish at the CanWest championships in January, Kendra Chernoff capped off her already impressive season with a gold medal in the women's 100-metre butterfly and silver medal in the women's 200-metre butterfly at the CIS championships last weekend. The former Texas A&M Aggie posted a superb winning time of 59.31 in the 100 fly — a good half-second better than the competition, — and improved on last year's silver. Additionally, Chernoff's remarkable outing was just under two-tenths of a second shy of the Pandas 100 fly record.



KENDRA CAN Chernoff won two medals at nationals. SUPPLIED

Puck Bears to use experience and preparation against Thunderbirds

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Canada West Semifinals #1 Bears vs. #6 UBC

Friday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m., Saturday March 1 at 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 2 at 6 p.m. if necessary
Clare Drake Arena (87 Avenue and 115 Street)
canadawest.tv

Atta Almasi

SPORTS STAFF • @SCARBOROLBLUFFER

When the Bears take to the ice on Friday night for their Canada West semifinal series against the UBC Thunderbirds, they'll be doing so after enjoying a first round bye week in the playoffs for the second consecutive season under sophomore head coach Ian Herbers, who led the team to a conference championship in his first year at the helm of the club.

Even though their female counterparts, the Pandas, lost to their second round sub .500 opponents the University of Regina Cougars, last weekend in three hard-fought games after coming off a first round bye week themselves after finishing first in the conference, Herbers is confident that his team — drawing on their experience and preparation — will have no problem in continuing the momentum from their seven-game winning streak to end the regular season, despite having an extra week off.

"It's the same situation we were in last year, (so) it shouldn't be an issue for our guys with the amount of games we've played," Herbers said. "We've played the most in Canada West, so it was actually (a) benefit for our team to have that last

weekend off which gave us a chance to regroup, get refocused for playoffs and get ready to elevate our game to another level."

Elevating their game to the next level is something Herbers sees as a natural progression for his team given that two weeks ago, they played a crucial two-game season-ending series against their provincial rivals, the University of Calgary Dinos, for the rights to the number one seed in the CanWest conference. And with talented players like fifth-year captain Sean Ringrose at his disposal, Herbers is confident his squad already knows what it takes when it gets to this time of year.

"Well, we approached Friday's game (against Calgary) like the first game of nationals," Herbers said, whose team's own unfortunate run at the CIS championship tournament last year in Saskatoon meant a premature ending to what had been a historic 100th anniversary season for the legendary club. "I think we've been getting better every weekend throughout the year ... We've kept elevating our game, we didn't rest on our laurels (and) we didn't get comfortable. We kept working, kept showing up at the rink everyday to get better as a team and as individuals and I think we've done that ... We still haven't accomplished anything yet so we want a very good playoff round here (against UBC)."

While relevant experience coupled with continued preparation and practice could mean that Herbers' squad may not meet the same unfortunate fate as the Pandas did against Regina last weekend, the Bears head coach is quick to note that the Thunderbirds could take advantage of his team like they did last weekend against the third-seeded University of Saskatchewan if the Bears aren't

careful.

"They're going to come out and work hard. They're going to come at us, they're going to be aggressive, they're going to forecheck, they're going to (put) pressure all over the ice and they're going to try and force us to make mistakes," Herbers said, adding that what hurt the Huskies was "their undisciplined play."

"(The U of S) had control and momentum over those games (against UBC), but then took some bad penalties which ended up costing them the series," Herbers said. "We need to make sure we're the team that's drawing the penalties and then capitalizing on our powerplay ... Our powerplay's got to be very good and our penalty kill's got to be very good. That's going to be the key factors this weekend."

Besides having good special teams, the Bears head coach has noted they have been all year, Herbers also credits the leadership ability of his players for giving the Bears the confidence they need going into the playoffs this postseason, something they'll need to continue to rely upon if they're to have any chance of being successful.

"Your best players have got to be your best players and your leaders have got to lead — in the dressing room, on the ice, away from the rink and that's what's expected from them, from the Bears program," Herbers said. "We've always had strong leadership that has passed down, and you can even look at our young guys — our first and second-year guys — they've been leaders on their Western Hockey League teams if that's where they've come from ... So it just gets passed down from generation to generation of what's expected of the leaders on the team."

The Bears swept the season series against the Huskies during the four times they played earlier in the year.



HOME SWEET HOME The Bears have only ever lost twice at Saville.

FILE PHOTO — RANDY SAVOIE

Hoop Bears look to clinch CanWest on home court

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Canada West Final Four

Friday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m., and Saturday March 1 at 3 p.m. or 7 p.m. (for championship or bronze medal game)
Saville Centre (114 Street and 87 Avenue)
canadawest.tv

Connor Bradley

SPORTS STAFF

In an already historic post-season for the Bears basketball team following their second ever loss at the Saville Centre last Saturday, the U of A's green and gold hoops squad will etch their names once again in the history books once the Canada West Final Four gets underway on Friday.

When the first-seeded Bears tip off against their long-time rival University of Saskatchewan Huskies this weekend in their semifinal matchup, they'll be doing so on home court for the first time since 2005 — which was the last year the Bears came out of the first round of the CanWest playoffs with the highest seed in the conference — and looking to clinch their first conference title since two years ago in 2012.

For Bears fourth-year guard and former University of Fraser Valley CIS All-Canadian Joel Friesen, who was on the court the last time the Bears clinched a CanWest banner — albeit on the opposite team — relying on the team's veteran experience will be key this weekend if the Bears are to have any hope of repeating that success from two years ago.

"It's been two years since I was in the Canada West finals against Alberta — which is ironic — but definitely having players who have been there before is beneficial for our roster," Friesen said. "As far as dealing with being the number one seed, that's basically how it has been for us all season, so it doesn't change much for us. We're still going to stick to our game plan knowing that we're going to get the opposition's best effort, especially during playoffs."

Sophomore Bears guard, Youssef Ouahrig, who was a finalist for CIS rookie of the year last season, agreed with his backcourt partner on how crucial it is for the Bears to stick to their game plan this weekend, especially since they'll be the hunted

instead of the hunter, as the number one seed being a huge target on their backs.

"Being number one is always the objective, (but) that also means that every other team is gunning for you and (will) bring their best game, (so) that means we have to bring our A game every night at practice and games," Ouahrig said. "Playing at home is such a big advantage in Canada West. We are lucky to have the best fans and it makes us push harder because we don't want to disappoint them."

Ouahrig, like Friesen, also pointed to the experience of having veteran guys in the locker room who had been at this stage before as a huge help to maintaining the commitment level and concentration that the Bears need in order to make a successful run for the CanWest championship.

"Having all these fifth-year players is really good for the younger guys like me (because) they've been through a lot in these five years (and) they were also able to win Canada West and get to the national finals so they surely know what it takes," Ouahrig said. "They are doing a good job taking us through the whole journey and keeping us focused."

As for how last week's three-game series against the UBC Thunderbirds helps them in terms of prepping the team for their semifinal game against the Saskatchewan Huskies, both Friesen and Ouahrig are in agreement that the game two loss on Saturday — in which the team blew a double-digit lead — was a wake up call for how the Bears need to play to be successful on Friday and on Saturday if they end up making it to the CanWest finals.

"That was a great battle for us and great preparation for the type of intensity we need to expect every game now. I don't think it has much to do with ironing anything out other than our mental focus before, during and after the game. It's do or die from here on out for us, and we have no excuses but to go and play our hearts out for each other, the athletic program and the university as a whole," Friesen said.

"We just need to be prepared for whatever they throw at us. We have to go in with a defensive mindset and do a great job of guarding the ball and winning the rebound battle. If we play together with good energy for 40 minutes we're a tough team to beat."



CHASING GLORY The Bears start their quest for their second straight CanWest title on Friday against UBC at home.

FILE PHOTO — RANDY SAVOIE



University of Alberta Golden Bears & Pandas

UPCOMING EVENTS

Golden Bears Basketball Canada West FINAL FOUR

Friday, February 28
Victoria vs UFV - 4pm
Alberta vs Saskatchewan - 8pm

Saturday, March 1
TBD - 3pm
Alberta vs TBD - 8pm

Pandas Basketball Canada West Quarterfinal vs Thompson Rivers Wolfpack

Game 1
Friday, February 28 - 6pm

Game 2
Saturday, March 1 - 5pm
Game 3 *if necessary
Sunday, March 2 - 5pm

Golden Bears Hockey Canada West Semifinal vs UBC Thunderbirds

Game 1
Friday, February 28 - 7pm

Game 2
Saturday, March 1 - 6pm
Game 3 *if necessary
Sunday, March 2 - 6pm

For advanced tickets
and information call
780.492.BEAR (2327)
or 780.451.8000

www.bears.ualberta.ca



[.com/bearsandpandas](http://www.bearsandpandas.com)

U of A golfer to represent Canada in Switzerland over the summer

BEARS' PROFILE

Max Lutz
SPORTS STAFF

Despite the fact that there's currently a thick layer of snow on the ground and the air in Edmonton is frigid, Alex Rakowski still has birdies and pars on his mind despite the inclement winter weather.

The first-year business student — who's also the current captain of the University of Alberta golf team — found out earlier this month on Feb. 5 that he'd been selected to represent Canada at the World University Golf Championships being held this June in Crans-Montana, Switzerland. And even though the team chosen to represent Canada is usually dependent on the results of nationals — which didn't happen this year because there wasn't a large enough time gap between the World Championships in Switzerland, set to begin June 21, and the Canadian National Championship, which takes place the first week of June in Winnipeg — Rakowski's selection to Team Canada came after a committee comprised of several Canadian university golf coaches selected the six-man roster based on their recent performances.

Swinging his first club at the tender age of four years old, when he would accompany his dad to the driving range, it wasn't until he was 12 that Rakowski started taking golf seriously. He had a membership at the Edmonton Petroleum Club golf course, and most of his days revolved around teeing up.

"My parents would drop me off at the course at eight in the morning, and usually I would wind up going home with my older brothers who

worked at the golf course around 10 p.m. or so, so I'd spend pretty much the whole day there," Rakowski said.

"He's the best player our program has ever seen."

ROBIN STEWART
GOLFER, BEARS GOLF TEAM

Over the next decade, his presence at the course — and especially the driving range — grew as many of his summer holidays were spent trying to break par. Now, as captain of the Golden Bears and last year's team MVP, Rakowski's coach at the U of A, Robin Stewart, who was also one of the men in charge of selecting the national team heading to Switzerland, has a pretty simple description of Rakowski.

"He's the best player our program has ever seen," the veteran coach said.

One of only two male golfers to captain the Golden Bears prior to entering his fourth year, the team has relied heavily on Rakowski since he joined the team. In his first year, at the 2012 national championship in Victoria, Rakowski helped the Bears to their highest finish in team history, with the U of A's men's team ranking sixth after the last putt was sunk.

While the Golden Bears didn't fare well at the 2013 national championships in Quebec, failing to make the cut as a team, Rakowski was the lone bright spot as he was the only Bear to make the individual cut and finished tied for 37th. This year, he has the lowest scoring average on

the team and, in fact, his average of 73.1 strokes per 18 holes was the lowest in Golden Bears history and was the lowest in western Canada this season.

Stewart emphasized that it was these kinds of stats and performances by Rakowski this past year, and last, that were the main reason he was selected to represent Canada.

Heading into the World University Golf Championships, the self-described aggressive golfer who likes to play a risk-reward game knows that a big part of his performance will depend on strategy adjustments he makes after the two practice rounds allotted to each player, given that he has never been to Crans-Montana or seen the course he'll be playing.

"Once I see this golf course I'll be able to map out a game plan ... and see where I'll be able to take some risks," Rakowski said.

The golf championships in June will also be Rakowski's first time in Europe, and although his main focus will be playing his best golf, his goal is to draw as much from this unique experience as he can.

"Obviously, my goal is to play well and ultimately see where my golf career can go moving forward, but I'm going to try to appreciate the experience no matter my result," Rakowski said. "Whether that means learning as much as I can from the other golfers or appreciating traveling to a new country."

Rakowski will be heading to Switzerland around the middle of June, and on his trans-Atlantic flight, there's a good chance he'll be the only person who can claim to have two hole-in-one's as well as two albatrosses on his resume.

FORE-TUNATE First-year Bears golfer Alex Rakowski has been chosen to compete for team Canada in Switzerland. SUPPLIED — MELISSA MAH

PLEA FOR A FEE:

EXPLORING THE NEW REC SERVICES AND ATHLETICS FEE PROPOSAL



FREE ADMISSION Making games free for students is part of the Faculty of Phys. Ed and Rec's proposed fee increase. FILE PHOTO — MIGUEL ARANAS

Faculty agrees to free games for students as part of fee proposal

ATHLETICS FEE

Atta Almasi & Adam Pinkoski
SPORTS STAFF

In an age of rapid growth to both varsity and recreational athletics across the country in light of CIS' recent aggressive five-year plan to become the world's premier university sports organization, and the proven importance of physical health and well-being of students, faculty and staff on campus, the Physical Education and Recreation Faculty at the University of Alberta is moving forward with the Students' Union and Graduate Student Association to propose a new Athletics and Recreation fee to cover the added cost of their ambitious expansion.

Voting on the plebiscite to support a new Athletics and Recreation fee increase is set to begin a week from now when students start voting in the Students' Union election. One of the proposals included in the plebiscite that Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation dean Kerry Mummery would like to consider, if the vote is indeed successful, is that it won't just be the green-and-gold-clad student-athletes of the varsity athletics program who will benefit from the new monies.

"There's a feeling that we're supporting the many supporting the few, even though we have over 500 varsity athletes," Mummery said in response to the fact that "the (fee) breakdown will probably seeing more of the money relatively go to Athletics" due to the "quite serious deficits" that, according to the dean, the faculty's varsity sports are running.

"And not to diminish varsity athletics, (but) in terms of student life, student health and student well-being, if people aren't using our programs and our facilities, they should be and we have to figure out how to promote that. We want people to be more physically active and more socially engaged."

Part of getting students more engaged through his faculty is something that the dean says is part of the "challenge at the university right now," with mental health being a major issue and an area Mummery is very familiar with, having published

in that area as an academic. And even though the recreation side of the fee will allow students to get involved physically with his department, Mummery sees varsity athletics as another avenue to help students at the U of A feel like a part of a bigger community.

"Involvement in student life is one of the best things we can do for student health," Mummery said. "Student isolation is a major issue (and) varsity athletics can do that."

One of the ways that Mummery and his colleagues on the Faculty of Phys. Ed side — in concert with representatives from the SU and Graduate Students' Association — have proposed to do that is to make regular season games involving the Golden Bears and Pandas varsity sports teams free for all students at the U of A who, at eight dollars a pop at the gate, currently pay some of the highest admission prices in the country for CIS events.

"We've agreed to ... (giving) free access to games for students," Mummery said. "We would prefer to have bodies in the stands, build a profile and a desire, and extend that to the large community who could pay entry fees."

On the point of the current prices of tickets, Mummery said that negotiations and dialogue between the faculty and the student body at large helped push them in the direction of offering free admission to games due to the perceived value of ticket prices by students.

"To even say that \$7 or \$8 is expensive to go to a game, that's an interesting point for us to hear because we can look out into the city and say that it costs way more than that to go to a movie, so is it the expense or is it the perceived value?" Mummery said. "(If) it's the perceived value, we have to do something to raise that perceived value. Even if we go down to zero, we want that to be perceived as a great win for the students. 'Wow, we can now go to all our varsity games for free and be involved in student life for free, isn't that fantastic?' That's a value ... If it's not valued, then it's meaningless, so we still have to make it a value proposition."

Although having more students in the seats at Clare Drake Arena, Foote

Field or the Saville Centre would satisfy Mummery simply to give students a more enriched experience at the U of A, for the U of A grad, having more students affiliated with the varsity athletics program holds a personal meaning.

"My wife swam many years ago for the University of Arizona and she's still attached to the University of Arizona, and that was a terrific part of her student life to go and watch the basketball team," Mummery said. "Her and her roommate are so excited that University of Arizona is ranked number (two) in the NCAA ... (and) this was 35 years ago. These are the type of things we see varsity athletics in doing and becoming an identity for student life ... Once you graduate — if you're affiliated with the team the way my wife is affiliated with the Wildcats — then we've got lifelong fans. Then we've got that vibrancy that we want, so I think it's a big win for both groups, frankly."

For Mummery, who sees this aspect of the fee proposal as the focal point of trying to get this fee passed, immersing more and more members of the campus community into the wider university experience by making all games free for students is worth more than a few lost dollars at the ticket gate, though the dean admits that the faculty doesn't drive its athletics program based on gate receipts.

"The games are more than just about the sport itself. The games are about student life, being with your colleagues, being with your friends and being involved in something on campus rather than being off-campus ... We'll get more students to the games, we'll build that atmosphere and that'll be much better for the whole experience to be involved ... I just can't understate the importance of that. We have to fight back on a number of fronts (and) this is our area, this is our turf."

Check out The Gateway online at gtwy.ca for more thoughts on the free games part of the fee proposal and our March 5 issue next week for the results from our online poll asking students what they think about the Athletics and Recreation fee increase as well as our final thoughts on it.

ALUMNI ASKED & ANSWERED

with

Alexis Hillyard

'06 BEd, '11 MEd

Current Occupation:

Sexual & Gender Minority Equity Advisor

What do you miss most about being a U of A student? Wearing warm and comfy U of A sweatpants to class every day, and having no one judge me about it.

Favourite campus memory?

As random as this is, I really loved lining up for final exams in the Butterdome at the end of the year. It was simultaneously isolating but also very comforting to know those 500 or so other students and I were all in it together.

What's the one piece of advice you'd give a current U of A student?

Walk around campus in every season, at least once, just to take in the beauty of it!

If you got one university do-over, what would it be?

I would get involved with a few student clubs and services. Perhaps I would have been involved in OUTreach (the LGBTQ social group) and I would have volunteered for Safewalk.

STOP BULLYING

Wear pink. Wed, Feb. 26

The international day against Bullying, Discrimination, Homophobia, and Transphobia in schools and communities.

alumni.ualberta.ca/students

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
ALUMNI

STUDENTS' UNION EXECUTIVE & BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION



Meet the Candidates, Attend a Forum!

LISTER FORUM

FEBRUARY 25

Second Floor Lister Cafeteria
6:00PM

CSJ FORUM

FEBRUARY 26

STUDENT LOUNGE, PAVILLION McMAHON
12:00PM

SUBstage FORUM #1

FEBRUARY 27

SUBstage, STUDENTS UNION BUILDING
12:00PM

SUBstage FORUM #2

FEBRUARY 28

SUBstage, STUDENTS UNION BUILDING
12:00PM

MYER HOROWITZ FORUM

MARCH 3

MYER HOROWITZ THEATRE, SUB
12:00PM Classes Cancelled From 12-1PM

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

MARCH 5 & 6



Nominations are now open for the STUDENTS' COUNCIL & GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL ELECTION

All Nominations must be submitted to 2-900 SUB or 604 SUB by 5:00PM on March 11, 2014.
The nomination packages can be found online or on the 6th floor of SUB.

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

The GFC is the legislative body of the U of A dealing with all academic matters and student affairs issues. 55 of its 152 voting members are students — the others include university administrators and faculty members.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Students' Council is the highest governing body in the Students' Union and has ultimate decision-making authority over all aspects of the organization. Of the 38 voting members, six are the SU Executives and the BoG Rep, and the other 32 seats are allocated to all faculties on the basis of their population.

Visit the website for: Candidate Bios, Referendum Questions & to vote online

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
STUDENTS' UNION

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Cameron Lewis
SPORTS COMMENTARY

When Jason Collins stepped onto the court Sunday night for the Brooklyn Nets, he became the first openly gay player ever to play a game for a major North American professional sports franchise, and because of this accomplishment, he certainly won't be the last. Collins, who came out of the closet after the end of the 2012–13 season, signed a 10 day contract Sunday with the Nets and logged 11 minutes of play in his first game, putting up zero points and two boards. Collins had previously played with the Nets back when they were located in New Jersey, where he built a close friendship with Jason Kidd, who now coaches the Nets and was on board with the 36 year old joining the team.

Incidentally, it was 67 years ago

in Brooklyn that Branch Rickey announced that Jackie Robinson would become the first African American player to break the colour barrier. A major catalyst in the social change that usually occurs within North American society has historically begun with sports because of the public interest it generates and the subsequent media attention it receives. *In Baseball* by Ken Burns, Branch Rickey — the then owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers stated “I may not be able to do something about racism in every field, but I can sure do something about it in baseball,” which ultimately led to the change that made baseball one of the most ethnically diverse professional sports leagues in the world.

In modern day Brooklyn, Kidd has advocated for Collins in his journey both as a pro basketball player and as a social rights activist, regardless of whether he intended to or not. Many people are suggesting that Collins was only offered a contract because teams didn't want to appear biased against openly gay

players, and that coming out at the time he did was just a PR stunt to save his career. Of course, Collins is the only one who knows whether or not this is true, but ultimately — a few decades from now when the sexuality barrier in pro sports is shrunk just like the race barrier was years ago — it won't matter what his motives were.

Collins' undoubtable bravery ... will help many athletes in the future to be open about their sexuality.

It's a well-known phenomenon that on top of his social idealism, Rickey was an astute businessman. It's implied in the recent film *42: The Jackie Robinson Story* that having Robinson on the Dodgers would increase revenue and help the team win ball games, so even if Rickey had no interest in civil rights and was only concerned about money,

the social change was still made that would allow African Americans to play major league baseball. For all we know, Rickey could have lost a bet with a friend with the condition being the loser had to sign a player from the Negro Leagues. It doesn't matter. All that matters is that a barrier was broken down and we are where we are today. In essence, regardless of what anybody's motives are, Collins became the first openly gay player in the NBA. Another barrier has been broken.

Of course, Collins isn't anywhere near the player talent-wise that Robinson was — he's a journeyman scrub while Robinson is a hall of famer. But Collins' actions are already helping to foster change in the sporting world for homosexual athletes. Michael Sam — the now famous 24-year-old former defensive end for the University of Missouri Tigers and unanimous SEC All-American — came out of the closet just months before the NFL draft, which had many commentators saying his admission will ultimately decide his

fate as a professional football player in terms of when and which teams will take him. When Collins was signed last weekend, Sam showed his appreciation for his bravery on Twitter, offering, “Congratulations to my friend (Jason Collins),” choosing to hashtag the words “courage” and “groundbreaking” to describe Collins' actions.

Ultimately, as Rickey and Robinson proved almost seven decades ago, it doesn't really matter what anybody's motivations in this situation are especially if what's at stake is the further progression of society and the advancement of a social movement. It doesn't matter if Collins is just trying to save his career. It doesn't matter if Collins is just a scrub and not a superstar. It doesn't matter if the Nets are just trying to get some media attention. All in all, the clear fact of the matter is, Collins' undoubtable bravery is the first chip in the wall, and will help many athletes — just like Michael Sam — in the future be open about their sexuality.



Atta Almasi
SPORTS COMMENTARY

It's done.

After endless hours of watching hundreds of athletes flip, glide, twirl or jump off, through or across water in one of its various states — snow, ice, or in the case of one snowboard cross event, rain — it's finally over.

Yes, the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympic Games are now in the history books and confined to pages in statistical record publications and YouTube videos.

But while some may detract from this wonderful experience, wondering why we put so much money, time, effort and energy into these things when they don't exactly reap us a tangible — read financial — benefit, the memories of Canadian excellence and failure were on display for us to see and share in the experience that are the Olympics made it all worthwhile.

Those moments — our populace decked out in HBC's now trademark red mittens, waving flags, braving the ungodly hours of morning to sit eyes fixed and unflinching, from the scenes of simulated combat more than half a world away — will live in our memories forever.

We'll remember when our country held its collective breath as the Canadian women's hockey team defied the impossible by clawing back

at the last possible moment from a two-goal deficit to put the game away in overtime against the Americans, or when we celebrated with the same triumphant joy as the Dufont-Lapointe parents as they watched two of their daughters clinch both the gold and silver medals for Canada in moguls skiing.

Thankfully, while Canadian taxpayers don't have to deal with the the aftermath of our government splurging 50 billion big ones to participate in Sochi, these moments of February winter bliss in Russia didn't come cheap. The fact is that taxpayer money has been poured over years and years to sponsor these athletes and for that we all should be grateful.

If you discount the NHLers of Team Canada's gold medal hockey team, many of the athletes we witnessed predicating in fear-defying accomplishments over the past fortnight aren't professional or full-time athletes, and must spend at least part of their time away from training plying their trade at something else just to make ends meet. Most rely on the goodwill of corporate sponsorships and money from the government to help them realize their dream of competing for the red and white on the world's biggest stage. And as the past few weeks proved, Canadians — whether we want to admit it or not — like to win and want to win. So if we have this insatiable desire for victory, why could it be wrong to seek to inspire greatness from those who compete for us?

Thankfully, prior to the Vancouver

Olympics four years ago in 2010, the Canadian government recognized this and implemented the Own the Podium program to help Canadian athletes better achieve against the world's best by providing more funding. And to no one's surprise, the program proved to be a complete success, as in 2010 Canada won more gold medals than we ever had before and finished atop the medal podium.

To say that Own the Podium is unsportsmanlike is to go against the very notion of what sport is really about.

But, despite these promising results and a further commitment by the Canadian government to continue to put money into Own the Podium, there are still some detractors of the program — which includes both current and former Olympians, such as Erik Guay and W. Brett Wilson — who say that Own the Podium is unsportsmanlike because it encourages a survival of the fittest mentality — a sort of social Darwinism if you will — because it takes money from the athletes, programs and sports who aren't as successful, and funnels it towards those who have the best chance at clinching medals for Canada on the world's biggest stage.

The ultimate question that must be posed to those who would critique the Own the Podium program is a simple one: is it unsportsmanlike to want to win?

If it is, why don't they tell that to the dozens of athletes in Sochi who won medals after having spent much of their lives preparing day-in and day-out for a moment that might last no more than a minute, if that. Tell that to those who've had to move from their bases of friendship and family to relocate in order to put in more work to achieve their dreams.

To say that Own the Podium is unsportsmanlike is to go against the very notion of what sport is really about. Despite the cries of indignation from moralists who say that the Olympics only help to fuel a negative sort of patriotism and nationalism that dangerously mirrors that which they say is routinely seen south of the border, sport is, was and always will be, fundamentally about winning and nothing else, regardless of what a few idealistic detractors might wish to say. To participate in a sporting event is to declare a desire to compete and ultimately to win and should be seen as such.

In sports, there are of course winners and losers. In the case of the Olympics, there is only gold, silver and bronze. They don't give out medals to those who finish fourth or 400th, and certainly none to those who — by choice, inability or mere incompetence — fail.

The point is that sport — especially at the highest level and when removed from all the glitz and glamour that is the Olympics — is a display of our most primal, instinctive attributes as human beings to conquer — whether it be nature, other human beings, or oneself. To have

a dedicated government program in Own the Podium that recognizes and encourages that should be seen as rational.

The argument that a reasonable alternative to Own the Podium would be to fund even more sports and athletes in the spirit of the old adage that “practice makes perfect,” ignores and contradicts the unfortunate reality that funding for sports in this country isn't unlimited, and even though more private capital has begun to flow into amateur sports in recent years, Canadian taxpayers cannot just continue to foot the majority of the bill without a reasonable expectation of immediate results and return on investment.

So what it comes down to is we as a country collectively having to decide one of two things: either we're going to want the top value for money by giving it to our nation's most elite athletes who have the best chance at winning gold and making us proud, or be a complete laughing stock on the world stage by spending millions of dollars on athletes, coaches and officials who are content to just participate or gain “exposure” for their sport without getting any results, while our best athletes can't get access to the resources they need to be the best in the world.

And if Canadians are going to dedicate hours of their miserable winter mornings and glorious summer nights watching our athletes compete in events that display the pinnacle of human physical achievement, it would be much better to see them win rather than be also-rans.

Diversions

Design & Production Editor
Anthony Goertz

Email
production@gateway.ualberta.ca

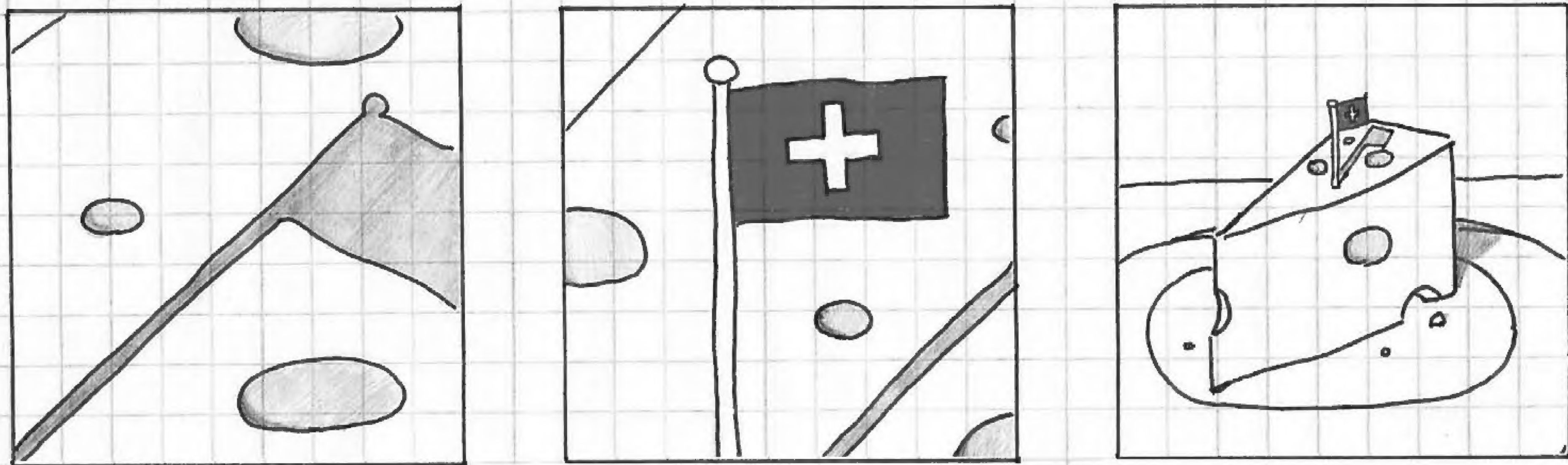
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780.492.6663

Twitter
@GoertzAnthony

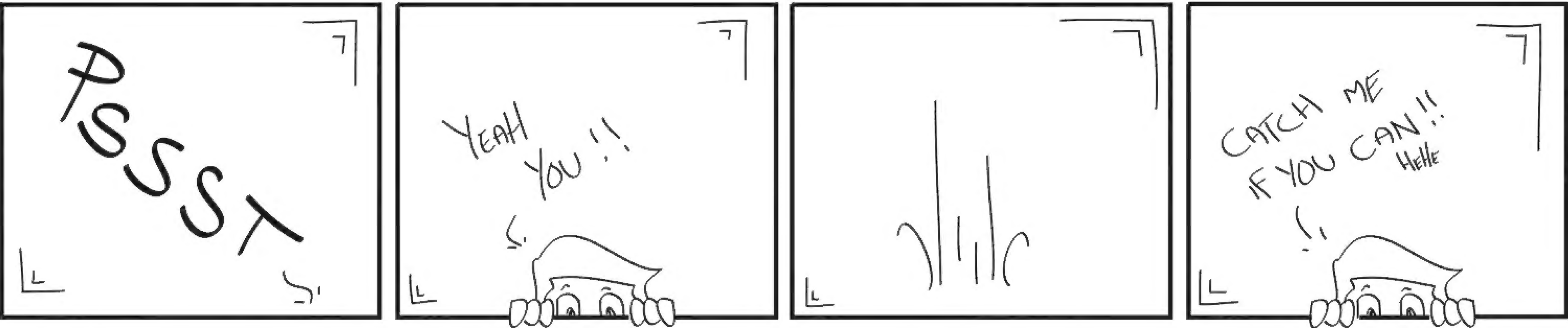
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Comics meetings Thursdays at 3 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

RED PEN COMICS by Michael Johnson



HIDE & SEEK by Nikhil Shah



IN BETWEEN CAFE by Stefano Jun



Sudoku

{ Every column, row, and 3 x 3 box must contain each number from 1 through 9. }

Puzzles by websudoku.com

		1			9	6	5				5	2	8				1					7				4	
5				6			8		9		1	7						6		1			5	8			6
	6	7			5			9		8			2								4				5	3	
6	3	2			8	7					4	3		9				7		3		5			4		
1				2		7			6				4								2				9		
		9		3			5	4	2	6			2		5	1					6			2		8	
9				8			2	7					8				7				4	9				7	
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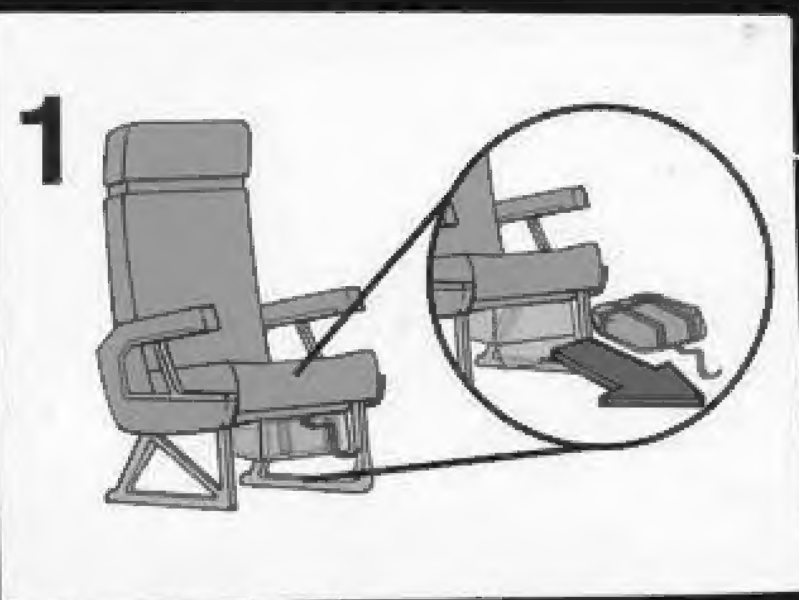
easy

medium

hard

ANTHOPOLOGY by Anthony Goertz

Airplane Safety Diagrams (and what they mean)



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Swing dance with the exit door.

Assist a black child for ten seconds.



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